FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ALFONSIN 'WILL SUPPORT' SARNEY ON DEBT DECISION

PY200129 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2357 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Feb (EFE) -- a high-ranking Argentine Government spokesman today told EFE that Argentina will "support" Brazil if economic sanctions are applied against it because of its decision to suspend the interest payments on its foreign debt. However, the spokesman said, "Argentina will continue negotiating with its creditors."

The spokesman indicated that Argentina President Raul Alfonsin today called Brazilian President Jose Sarney on the telephone to convey his support.

In August 1986, Brazil and Argentina launched an economic integration process which, according to observers, is meeting with some difficulties because of the financial problems the two countries are experiencing.

Argentina has a foreign debt totalling $50 billion and yesterday obtained an IMF loan for $1.8 billion which, together with $2.1 billion that will be supplied by the creditor banks, will help pay the interest and refinance the country's debt.

Argentina Economic Policy Secretary Juan Sommer has told EFE that "we are beginning a phase of negotiations with the creditor banks" to obtain funds to finance growth.

IMF APPROVES LOANS TOTALING $1.83 BILLION

NC191104 Paris AFP in English 1042 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, Feb 19 (AFP) -- The International Monetary Fund approved two loans totalling 1.83 billion dollars for Argentina on Wednesday here, the Economy Ministry said.

The ministry said one loan was in the form of a stand-by credit of 1.35 billion dollars, and the other was a credit of 480 million dollars under a programme of compensation for a fall in exports.

Argentina, which has debts exceeding 50 billion dollars, has asked commercial banks to extend new loans totalling 2.15 billion dollars. The banks were expected to take a decision next week.

ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT

PY191822 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] President Raul Alfonsin welcomed Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko at the metropolitan airport this afternoon. Sese Seko is in Argentina on a 3-day official visit. Sese Seko, who does not enjoy great prestige among the nonaligned countries, [as heard] defines himself as a friend of the Western world and a defender of the African cause. We conclude by saying that the Zairian president is visiting Argentina within the framework of a tour through various Latin American countries and that it is encompassed within the Argentine Government's policy of strengthening relations with sub-Saharan African countries.

Sese Seko is scheduled to hold his first meeting with Alfonsin this afternoon.

COURT TO SUMMON NAVY OFFICERS OVER VIOLATIONS

PY192318 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Feb 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The Federal Court has decided to summon at least 17 naval officers -- two of them serving officers -- in relation to human rights violations committed at the Navy Mechanics School (ESMA), while Federal Prosecutor Julio Cesar Strassera was preparing to make the corresponding petition for their trials, reliable sources reported.

The number of naval officers to be summoned was advanced yesterday by the judges to the Defence Ministry, said the sources.

The imminence of Strassera's formulation of the accusation was made evident not only by the feverish activity detected in the prosecutor's office, but by the fact that this Sunday is the deadline set by the full stop law for the presentation of human rights violations cases.

Judge Fernando Nino yesterday explained that he ordered the trial of five serving naval officers because he found there was enough evidence to suspect them as authors or accomplices of crimes denounced by Thelma Jara de Cabezas, who was captive at ESMA.

After doing so, Judge Nino declared himself noncompetent to try them, and sent the cases to the Federal Court to be added to the 400 denunciations that make up the ESMA file.

The court, in turn, declared itself noncompetent to rule on cases of illegal repression at the Mar del Plata naval base, and sent them to the Bahia Blanca court, but it is thought that the latter will transfer them to the Supreme Court.

In this case, retired Vice-Admiral Juan Carlos Lombardo, commander of the base in 1976, is accused of the kidnapping and murder of young Ana Rosa Frigerio and Fernando Francisco Yudi, who were missing that year.

At least two witnesses who had not testified at the trial of the former military juntas recently charged before the Federal Court that Lieutenant-Commander Alfredo Astiz was present when French nuns Alice Domon and Leonie Duquet were tortured.

As the abduction of the nuns, which was proved at the junta trials, was subject to the statute of limitations, their cases will only be used as evidence if their torture can be proved.

By a Supreme Court decision, the Armed Forces Supreme Council will take on the case of Victor Basterra, a printing worker who was detained at ESMA until shortly before the democratic government took over, and who showed photographs he had taken of his captors at the junta trials.

The La Plata Federal Court yesterday took on another 20 cases, and called in former de facto president retired General Reynaldo Bignone, former First Army Corps commander General Jose Montes, former Army Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides, and Buenos Aires ex-Police Chief Fernando Verplaetsen to testify on incidents related to the direction of military institutes.

The La Plata court will send Prosecutor Raul Tierno's request for the suspension of the February 22 deadline to the Supreme Court.

The Cordoba Federal Court reportedly summoned retired General Luciano Benjamin Menendez for next March 17 in relation to the cases of human rights abuses while he was at the head of Third Army Corps.

The Cordoba Court is expected to give its resolution on the question of competence brought up by the defence attorney of Colonel Osvaldo Perez Battaglia, who requested that the case be transferred to the Armed Forces Supreme Council.

Battaglia is charged with the abduction and murder of La Rioja priests Carlos de Dios Murias and Gabriel Longeville in 1976.

Tucuman Federal Appeals Court member Raul Mender yesterday accused military judge retired Lieutenant Colonel Roque Ramon Cabral of trying to discredit the impartiality of the federal courts in charge of trying human rights cases, in reference to Cabral's denunciations of "irregularities" in Mender's treatment of cases, specifically of his not having respected the required reserve with regards to the files' content.

Finally, the Comodoro Rivadavia Federal Court this week summoned three military officers and eight local prison guards allegedly involved in human rights crimes.

MILITARY EXPRESSES SUPPORT ON CAPITAL MOVE

PY192246 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Feb 87 p 9

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- Defence Minister Horacio Jaunarena said in report to the Senate yesterday afternoon that a "Viedma has no significant drawbacks from the point of view of military defence."

Yet his statements on strategic and security aspects of the transfer of the federal capital to Viedma-Carmen de Patagones reportedly failed to dampen the Peronist bloc's opposition to the move.

Meanwhile, Air Force Chief-of-Staff Brigadier General Ernesto Crespo yesterday said his force "backs the transfer of the federal capital to Viedma, as stated in a report sent to the Senate."

Crespo said press claims that the Air Force opposed the site chosen for the new capital were "malicious or else arise from erroneous information."

In a press conference yesterday, the Air Force chief handed journalists photocopies of the report submitted to the Senate Defence Committee last September, in which he said observations related to the move "with strategic, geopolitical and defence -- not political -- connotations" were made.

After pointing out that the site with greatest defence potential was located 300 kms west of the Rio Negro coast, the report stated that the costs of setting up the capital there were too high and thus the chosen area was appropriate, even for air defence.

Jaunarena himself yesterday confirmed that reports by the Army, Navy, and Air Force "back the creation of the new capital in Viedma."

AMBITO FINANCIERO on Monday stated that the Air Force considered Viedma-Carmen de Patagones as vulnerable from a military-strategic viewpoint.

For his part Aldo Neri, head of the National Committee for the Patagonia-Capital Project, yesterday said the "defence of the Patagonia will be achieved through peaceful settlement" and not by keeping up the centralized power scheme in Argentina.

Neri said he knew nothing of an Air Force report stating outright opposition to the move, and added that "opinions on defense and safety of any area must be given jointly by the three Armed Forces."

Justicialist senators meantime criticized draft legislation to move the capital to Viedma, claiming the plan was too costly and questioning financing methods planned by the government.

During a meeting yesterday at the Public Works Ministry attended by government officials and senators from the four Upper House committees screening the bill, the cost of the move was reported to have climbed to 3,900 million australs, a figure "substantially above the 1,800 million stated in previous meetings," according to Peronist Senator Eduardo Menem.

Menem also said that, based on details provided at the meeting by members of the Patagonia-Capital Commission, the number of state employees to be transferred to the new capital had dropped from 16,000 to 12,000.

Meanwhile, the presidents of Patagonian Radical Party committees yesterday announced that a campaign is under way to drum up support for the draft law on the transfer of the capital. Steps to be taken will be defined in Viedma on March 21 with the participation of governors, legislators, and other authorities from Patagonian provinces under Radical rule. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

CULTURE SECRETARY'S NEW POSITIONS -- Buenos Aires, 23 Jan (DYN) -- It has been officially reported that Culture Secretary Marcos Auinis has been appointed "ad-honorem" presidential advisor, and head of the National Advisory Commission for the National Culture Democratization Program, recently created through Decree 88. Decree 89 appointed Aguinis head of the Commission, and Decree 82 named him presidential advisor. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1742 GMT 23 Jan 87 PY]

LABOR UNDER SECRETARY INSTALLED -- Buenos Aires, 23 Jan (TELAM) -- Labor Minster Hugo Barrionuevo today installed Adrian O. Goldin as labor under secretary. Goldin replaces Armende Caro Figueroa who has just been appointed labor secretary. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1539 GMT 23 Jan 87 PY]

INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY APPOINTED -- Buenos Aires, 20 Jan (TELAM) -- Carlos Eduardo Perez Llana has been appointed interior under secretary. He is replacing Francisco Mugnolo who resigned to engage in political activities. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0017 GMT 31 Jan 87 PY]

MILITARY AUTHORITIES OPPOSE MANEUVERS WITH U.S.

PY191128 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0021 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] La Paz, 18 Feb (EFE) -- The daily HOY today published in this capital a report that high-ranking Bolivian Air Force and Navy authorities have expressed opposition to the upcoming joint military maneuvers with the United States called "United Forces 87." The "joint and combined" exercises to be carried out by Bolivian and U.S. military forces are scheduled for 11 through 23 May in the Apolo, Ixiamas, Rurenbaque, and Reyes regions, near the border with Peru. The exercises will mobilize more than 500 men.

According to the newspaper, the Bolivian Air Force and Navy chiefs oppose these exercises because the U.S. military men refuse to donate sophisticated transmission equipment, valued at $5 million, that will be used during the exercises. The U.S. troops will also bring four T-34B fighter jets that will not be given to the Bolivian Air Force. The Bolivian Air Force leadership has several reasons for rejecting the joint exercises with the U.S. troops.

According to the newspaper HOY, "Bolivian military men were able to become acquainted with the behavior of American soldiers" during the "Blast Furnace" operation carried out from July to October 1986 in the tropical jungle in the north of Bolivia with the objective of curbing drug trafficking. After verifying that the armed Black Hawk helicopters were of little use in the Bolivian jungles, the Americans replaced them with six UH-1 helicopters, which did not remain with the Bolivian Armed Forces.

The Army views the exercises as an opportunity for its personnel to gain experience, the newspaper states.

The Bolivian Air Force, Army, and Navy agree on the negative results of the "Bol-USA 86" exercises carried out last May, before Operation Blast Furnace, despite the fact that "support military personnel did learn something."

The American last week sent to Bolivia a representative who met with General Gonzalo Saavedra, commander of the Bolivian Armed Forces.

Meanwhile, the operation has been carefully prepared by the Bolivian military authorities since the end of January, and its principal objective is to end drug trafficking and prevent the spread of the Peruvian Shining Path Maoist guerrillas.

The newspaper reports finally that although there is opposition to the military maneuvers their cancellation is not foreseen, and that the joint operation will start on 11 May.

BARTHELEMY SAYS 'FOREIGN SUBVERSIVES' ARRESTED

PY190105 Paris AFP in Spanish 0022 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] La Paz, 18 Feb (AFP) -- Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy today reported that several foreigners have been arrested by the security services for conducting illegal activities in Bolivia aimed at creating conditions for a future subversive plan.

The chief of internal security refused to identify those arrested or their number because the investigations are continuing. He explained that they are being interrogated to determine their connections with local organizations.

Barthelemy added that government authorities have taken all the appropriate security measures to prevent outbursts of violence and the violation of constitutional order.

COB Denies Involvement

PY181629 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1722 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] La Paz, 17 Feb (EFE)-- Walter Delgadillo, secretary general of the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB), today denied charges that the leading Bolivian union organization is involved in the activities of foreign armed and terrorist groups. Delgadillo said the COB is not involved in "criminal" activities, and he rejected reports that the COB, helped by (Spain's) ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty], the PLO, [Colombia's] M-19, [Argentina's] Montoneros, and other armed groups, is trying to oust the Paz Estenssoro government, and that this is why they are holding up jewelry stores.

On 15 February, EL DIARIO, which has a nationwide circulation, published the confession of Uruguayan citizen Luis Manuel Justo Pilo Yanez, who was arrested on 15 December after a frustrated holdup of a gold dealer's shop in La Paz. Delgadillo said that "the COB has not had any dealings with this Uruguayan citizen. The COB's activities are legal, and those who work for the COB are all respectable people." The newspaper reports that Pilo Yanez testified that he participated in holdups of a jewelry store and an exchange house, and that he was also involved in manufacturing counterfeit Bolivian money and other activities aimed at funding the political activities of armed groups that work with the COB.

According to EL DIARIO, the Uruguayan citizen added that members of the ETA, the M-19, and anarchist groups also participated in these holdups. This confession led the newspaper to state that "Bolivia has become the center for leftist and criminal activities that seek to oust the Paz Estenssoro government." Delgadillo called the charges made by EL DIARIO "an attack" that "is manipulated by the government." The union leader added that the government, "under the pretext of rejecting the demands that were submitted by the COB, is making up subversive plans and charges against Bolivian unions." Delgadillo said that "the charges are contradictory. They were made by a rightist newspaper, and they are promoted by the government because it wants to link the COB's demands with terrorist plans.

BRIEFS

1986 PETROLEUM PROFITS -- In 1986, the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits (YPFB) gross profits totaled $637 million. These profits were derived from the sale of refined products in the domestic market and gas exports to Argentina. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Jan 87 pp 1, 13 PY]

NEW POLICE COMMANDER -- Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy announced yesterday that Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro has appointed General Raul Escobar Lopez as chief of the Bolivian police. Barthelemy said that General Julio Vargas Soto had requested in 1986 to be relieved of his post. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Jan 87 p 9 PY]

GOVERNMENT TO SUSPEND INTEREST PAYMENTS 90 DAYS

PY200150 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0105 GMT 20 Feb 87

[By Jorge Matiz F.]

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Feb (EFE) — It has been officially confirmed in Brasilia that Brazil has suspended the interest payments on its foreign debt for 90 days in face of the impossibility of honoring its commitments. This decision will be officially announced simultaneously tomorrow in Brasilia and Washington.

A Brazilian Government House spokesman has told EFE that tomorrow President Jose Sarney will address the nation to explain to the citizenry what led his administration to adopt such a drastic measure. This means that for 90 days, Brazil will not sent abroad the nearly $2 billion in interest payments due in the first 6 months of this year on its $108-billion foreign dept. This decision does not affect the central banks of the countries that from the Paris Club. A month ago Brazil agreed to renegotiate its $6-billion debt with that group.

Brazilian Ambassador to the United States Marcilio Marques Moreira has informed the U.S. Government of the Brazilian decision amid great security. Moreira had been recalled to Brasilia by the government "for consultations" at the beginning of this week. The final announcement will be made during the week Brazil starts renegotiating in New York with the creditor banks with whom it has a $64-billion debt. This is the second time in the last 4 years that Brazil has suspended the interest payments on its foreign debt. In 1983, Brazil adopted a similar stand when it was forced to resort to the U.S. Government to secure a bridge loan to meet its international commitments.

The decline in international reserves -- which totaled $3.4 billion in December — and a trade-balance surplus below the $7 billion targeted for this year prevented Brazil from fulfilling the payment of the nearly $12 billion in interest payments due on its foreign debt. The measure the Brazilian Government adopted today establishes that the equivalent of the interest for the next 90 days will be deposited in cruzados in the local subsidiaries of the creditor banks.

The decision did not surprise any Brazilian sector because of the growing rumors that have been circulating in Brazil in the last 2 weeks on this possibility.

Senator Jose Richa, of the ruling Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB], has told EFE that "the national Congress was not consulted on this measure, but the leaders of the political parties were kept abreast of the country's situation." "We had no other alternative," said Richa, who added that he trusts that no repressive measures will be adopted against Brazil. He emphasized that "the two sides are to be blamed for the current situation."

"There was irresponsibility in the way the banks granted loans to the successive Brazilian Governments that irresponsibly applied for them. Now, we are not accepting lessons on morals from the outside," the PMDB senator said.

A few hours after the government's decision was officially confirmed, the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries (FIESP) lauded the measure and announced its support of the government of President Jose Sarney "in light of the difficult times that are approaching."

Funaro Discusses Issue

PY200354 Rio de Janeiro Rede Manchete Television in Portuguese 0240 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Clip shows Finance Minister Dilson Funaro being interviewed by unidentified reporters on 19 February; place not given]

[Text] [Announcer] Finance Minister Dilson Funaro admitted tonight that President Sarney will decide tomorrow the procedure that Brazil will follow regarding its foreign debt: One of the options is the suspension of interest payments.

[Begin recording] [Funaro] The president is not listening to what the rest of the nation's representatives have to say. He will decide tomorrow. It will be up to him to decide tomorrow.

[Reporter] But your ministry's proposal is to suspend...

[Funaro, interrupting] There are several proposals from which the president must choose.

[Reporter] There is talk of a suspension.

[Funaro] It is a valuable suggestion. I think the president will listen to the PMDB and the bloc leaders, but the decision will be up to the president.

[Reporter] Undoubtedly, the opinion of the Finance Ministry has considerable weight in this process of consultation. What is your evaluation of the situation, Mr Minister?

[Funaro] I have already conveyed the key aspects to the president. I think there is a general consensus that Brazil does not want to jeopardize its growth possibilities. Foreign adjustments cannot be made to the detriment of national interests. This has happened in the past, and we do not plan to repeat that mistake.

[Reporter] Does this mean that there is a proposal to suspend the interest payments on the foreign debt, that this proposal has been conveyed to the president, and that he will make the decision tomorrow?

[Funaro] No. There is a proposal to negotiate the foreign debt. That is what is being discussed, and tomorrow the president will decide the approach that should be used in these negotiations.

[Reporter] Is there going to be a meeting to reach this decision. What will the steps be?

[Funaro] I do not know. I have not been called for a meeting. The president will decide what to do and will probably call us in to tell us what he has decided. [end recording]

Cabinet on Alert

PY200312 Rio de Janeiro Rede Manchete Television in Portuguese 0240 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The cabinet is on alert. President Jose Sarney tonight ordered all his ministers to remain on alert. No one can leave Brasilia tomorrow or accept engagements. The president thinks a special meeting will be necessary to reach a final decision on the payment of the foreign debt.

Sarney To Address Nation 20 Feb

PY200325 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 0310 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] President Sarney will go on radio and television tomorrow to announce the government's decision to suspend interest payments on the foreign debt. However, first he will meet with his ministers to discuss the decision. Paulo Henrique Amorim has more details about the meeting President Sarney will hold at Planalto Palace tomorrow.

[Begin Amorin recording] President Sarney will hold a cabinet meeting tomorrow afternoon. The meeting will be more important than an average cabinet meeting. President Sarney will speak, Minister Funaro will speak, and the other ministers will be invited to state their viewpoints. At 2030 local time [2330 GMT], the president will go on a radio and television network to explain the difference between a moratorium and what he will do; namely, suspend interest payments.

The president hopes to regain the trust of the people through this measure, and he is very optimistic that he will. However, a minister with whom I spoke is convinced that this measure offers only one true advantage: The country will come to grips with reality and will regain its common sense. [end recording]

PLANNING MINISTER SAYAD LEAVES HOSPITAL

PY132116 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1500 GMT 13 Feb 87

[By Reporter Bahia Filho]

[Excerpt] Planning Minister Joao Sayad this morning left the Heart Institute where he was hospitalized last week with meningitis.

During a very disorganized news conference, Minister Sayad refused to answer questions on the national economic situation, and said that he will stay home for one more week, after which he should be completely recovered.

Sayad intended to go to Brasilia on 16 February and resume his duties, but his doctors would not permit it, although they assured him that he will not have any side effects from meningitis. They insisted, however, that he has to rest for one more week. [passage omitted]

PETITION TO SEVER TIES WITH S. AFRICA PRESENTED

PY190107 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Deputy Roberto Davila today presented Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre with a petition signed by some 300 senators, deputies, governors, and mayors asking that diplomatic relations with South Africa be severed.

Abreu Sodre stated that he will send the petition to President Jose Sarney and that he endorses any possible actions against the apartheid system.

ARAB ENVOYS MEET ON ISRAELI ARMS DEALS

Ambassadors Reportedly 'Outraged'

PY152244 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Feb 87 p 1

[By city editor Dacio Nitrini]

[Text] Arab countries that have embassies in Brazil may stop trading with this country. They are outraged that for the last 5 years the Brazilian Government has been secretly buying military materiel from Israel for the Brazilian Armed Forces, according to an exclusive FOLHA DE SAO PAULO report published on 30 January.

After waiting for an official denial, which did not materialize, the diplomats have conducted an investigation and confirmed that the information was correct. They immediately organized a meeting which took place in Brasilia and lasted 4 hours. At this meeting they outlined a common strategy of pressure directed against Israel's presence among the suppliers of arms to Brazil. Today, every one of these diplomats will send a report to his country providing full information on the case, and suggesting economic sanctions. The diplomatic representatives of Morocco, Syria, Algeria, Libya, Lebanon, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the PLO attended the meeting.

The ambassadors claimed to be outraged by the secret purchase of Israeli weapons, but they also expect the Brazilian Government to clarify other points of friction. The first of these is the rumor that Brazil and Israel are preparing an agreement for the development of joint technology to manufacture arms. The second point of friction is the alleged sale of enriched uranium to Israel. Brazilian officials have told the Arab diplomats that no such sale has taken place.

Trade Break Denied

PY141653 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 1000 GMT 14 Feb 87

[Text] Rui Noguera, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, Itamaraty, has dismissed reports that the ambassadors of Arab countries accredited to Brazil met this week with a PLO representative to discuss the possibility of breaking trade relations between those countries and Brazil. These reports were carried yesterday by Sao Paulo and Brasilia newspapers, and said that the Arab countries were dissatisfied because Brazil is purchasing military equipment from Israel.

According to Noguera, as soon as Itamaraty learned of the reports it contacted the ambassador of Saudi Arabia, who leads the Arab group in Brazil. The Saudi ambassador confirmed that there was a meeting last Thursday of the heads of the Arab countries' missions in Brasilia, but he said it was just a routine meeting. The ambassador added that the possibility of breaking trade relations with Brazil was not on the agenda and was not discussed. According to Noguera, Itamaraty has not received a request for clarification regarding the Brazilian-Israeli arms trade from Arab countries embassies.

According to information provided by Itamaraty, the Brazilian Government will receive a visit from an Arab chief of state during the first half of the year. Although not yet confirmed, that chief of state might be the president of Lebanon, Amin al-Jumayyil.

PARTY CALLS FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

PY182135 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Jose Tomas Saenz, president of the Humanist Party, today called for the beginning, next March, of a national campaign for free elections and for the registration of political parties under the new Law of Political Parties. He called on political parties to do away with what he called useless top-level meetings and sterile discussions about the legitimacy of the legal instruments which will apparently help the regime to continue in power. He added that the first challenge is to show the country and the government that the opposition really represents the majority, and that we are willing to prove it even under the rules imposed by the regime. [passage omitted]

The Social Democratic Party has called on Chileans to register in the Electoral Registries. Arturo Benegas, acting president of this political party, said that registration does not mean a commitment to the current regime. He added that under an authoritarian regime, like the current one, any legislation should be evaluated on its ethical principles, but politics is the art of the possible. Therefore, we are forced to discard this type of consideration and we should use all the legal instruments within our reach to achieve the return of democracy, and to politically defeat the government. [passage omitted]

Hales Criticizes Registration

PY200241 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Patricio Hales, leader of the Marxist-Leninist Popular Democratic Movement [MDP], has harshly criticized the opposition Democratic Alliance [AD] for calling on all its militants to register in the electoral registries. Patricio Hales said that the electoral registration is a trap just like all the political laws, especially the Law on Political Parties. The MDP leader expressed his disagreement with the AD decision, saying that the entire opposition should be united. The MDP, which has a large communist influence, on 17 February called on Chileans not to register in the electoral registries as a way not to recognize the Chilean Constitution.

LEFT-WING CONCLAVE URGES OPPOSITION TO UNITE

PY192358 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Today, for the first time, the Left-Wing Conclave held a press conference. Two of its general coordinators, Raul Diaz and Jaime Cavada, who exhorted the opposition to unite, participated. They said tht considering the serious situation prevailing in the country, the Left-Wing Conclave is willing to discuss, agree upon, and obey the methods of struggle adopted by the opposition.

The Left-Wing Conclave representatives stated that the Conclave's objective is to try to implement an agreement reached with the participation of all, including the Ricardo Nunez Socialist Party faction, as well as to plan the appropriate actions and procedures for a struggle aimed at recovering democracy.

The Left-Wing Conclave representatives also requested that the rest of the opposition sectors reach an agreement on the stability of the future constitutional government and the initiatives favoring the unity of the opposition, as demanded by the people. Jaime Cavada explained:

[Begin Cavada recording] We are fully aware of the opposition's different positions on the strategy and method to follow in ousting the dictatorship. We reiterate that it is absolutely necessary to agree on a single strategy in order to carry out the tasks and methods to reach our political objectives. We must at least agree on a plan common to all of us. After agreeing on a plan, each sector can retain its autonomy and continue its own strategy.

Nonetheless, we must state that we are deeply worried over the fact that in the 2 months since we made our serious and responsible proposal to the opposition, no reply has been issued by any representative of the opposition. It is not only us, but the Chilean people and the dramatic national situation, that demanded a reply. [end recording]

The Left-Wing Conclave also demanded an explanation and justification for the crimes that are well known by the public here and abroad. The other coordinator of the Left-Wing Conclave, Raul Diaz, said the following:

[Begin Diaz recording] We insist that Major Fernandez Larios' recent declarations demonstrate the degree of moral dissolution affecting the military institutions. The military men have become executors of their fellow countrymen, and they have been dragged into this situation by Pinochet and the Armed Forces, following only their desire for power and [words indistinct]. This case demonstrates that the dictatorship has always resorted to state terrorism as a method to subdue the Chilean people. [end recording]

Regarding the Chilean Communist Party's [PCCh] desire to discuss the methods of struggle with the democratic opposition, PCCh leader Fanny Pollarolo said:

[Begin Pollarolo recording] It is a very clear explanation of what the PCCh has always proposed, mainly meaning that the instruments of ending the dictatorship are the struggle and unity of the opposition. The PCCh totally agrees with the declaration of the leftist sector that the national situation is extremely serious. Therefore, we are willing to take all the steps required to facilitate an understanding among the opposition. [end recording]

These were the most important parts of the first press conference granted by the Left-Wing Conclave today.

GOVERNMENT ALLOWS 200 MORE CHILEANS TO RETURN

PY182100 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Relay by Eliana Henriquez from La Moneda Palace]

[Text] The government today agreed to allow another 200 Chileans living in exile to return to Chile. Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia indicated that in the last 4 years the government has authorized the return of 7,034 people of which only 1,656 have actually returned. These figures do not include the list of peole allowed to return this year.

The minister also explained that former Socialist Congressman Erich Schnake Silva has not been authorized to return and that the person included in the latest list is Erich Schnake Maturana. He added that until last week those two people were both on the forbidden-to-return list. Garcia pointed out that he is very sorry about the confustion. He labeled as a communication error the fact that the Foreign Ministry confirmed that the former socialist congressman has been allowed to return to the country. He said:

[Begin recording] I really regret the confusion which caused some misunderstanding especially in the family of Erich Schnake Silva. I really regret it. I also regret the confusion in the national and international media. The fact is that there is a list with so many names. We [words indistinct] working to reduce and eliminate from the list the names of people who have been considered [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Minister Garcia also indicated that the Civil Registry shows the existence of Erich Schnake Maturana. Garcia was also asked about the statement made by Major Armando Fernandez Larios in relation to the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. Garcia said that this is an issue that has many implications and that the government is concerned about it. He added: We are conducting a thorough study, we are constantly following it, and we understand its importance.

Garcia also indicated that the government wants this issue clarified because it rejects any type of violence and that this is why it will provide all the necessary cooperation to the appropriate courts responsible for this issue.

Minister Garcia also referred to the report delivered by the International Red Cross on the situation of the people arrested for security reasons. He said that the Red Cross indicated that it was able to do positive work during 1986 and that the issue still pending is related to the people being held incommunicado.

BRIEFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE -- National Statistics Institute Director Javier Vial has reported that the unemployment rate in Chile was 8.8 percent during the last quarter of 1986. He said that this is one of the lowest rates recorded in the last 15 years. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 87 PY]

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ANALYZES EXTRADITION TREATY

PA192018 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Bogota -- According to the government the extradition treaty is in effect. Moreover, it has recalled that the Criminal Code demands Supreme Court intervention in the process of delivering nationals requested by a foreign tribunal. There is no doubt that the treaty is in effect, said Education Minister Marina Uribe de Eusse upon leaving a special Council of Ministers meeting to analyze the court decision of not applying this treaty.

Justice Minister Eduardo Suescun admitted that the court has created a juridicial vacuum that must be filled. He did not, however, say how this can be done.

The government issued a communique announced the extradition of Colombian Oscar Salazar Grajales y Oscar Garcia, stating that Article 735 of the Penal Code procedure establishes the intervention of the Supreme Court of Justice in the delivery of citizens to foreign judicial organizations.

Another minister said that the president notified the Council of Ministers that despite the court decision, the government will continue working on the extradition requests before the Supreme Court of Justice not only because it believes the treaty is in effect, but also because this is established in the Criminal Code.

Supreme Court justices have warned that the decision of not participating in the process to extradite nationals is applicable only to those cases pending on 12 December, -- at the time the law was declared as inapplicable and the treaty was signed and approved by Colombia and the United States.

Justice Jaime Carreno Luengas, president of the Criminal Court, said that the court has not stated that the treaty is not in effect. According to the justice, this decision does not imply a Supreme Court ruling on the existence of the treaty or whether or not the court is planning to ignore the treaty or the law through which it was enacted. Moreover, it is clear that the Criminal Court is not empowered to do this, Carreno Luengas added.

The court has explained that its decision is justified by the fact that a law cannot be applied retroactively. Therefore, President Barco's decision to reactivate the law that ratified the 1979 treaty implies that the treaty was in effect only after 14 February. Since there were several extraditions pending at the time, in those cases it was necessary to apply a convention established by the two governments 99 years ago, under which the delivery of nationals is the exclusive perogative of the executive branch without the intervention of the judicial branch.

EDITORIAL WARNS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING SUBVERSION

PA191508 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Feb 87 p 4-A

[Editorial: "Are We at War?"]

[Excerpts] Former Presidents [Alfonso] Lopez Michelsen and Carlos Lleras Restrepo have concurred in outlining to Colombians -- in an excellent speech delivered on Friday and in his usual column in NUEVA FRONTERA, respectively -- the fundamental problem affecting the nation. Through different avenues, but with similar principles and views on the situation, they have not hesitated to point to public order as the most serious hindrance to the country's democratic, economic, and social stability.

Lopez Michelsen took advantage of the presentation of a compilation of his writings published by the Chamber of Representatives to outline, with his characteristic brilliance, a number of political ideas and economic proposals. In conclusion, he said that the situation affecting Colombians is extremely serious and rightly noted that they are threatened not by a party-against-party opposition but by the opposition of the guerrillas and drug traffickers are waging against men of goodwill. [passage omitted]

Lopez raises the need to seek solutions of a social type and to promote reforms but on the condition that the enemy be defeated. This is logical. That is the only way to negotiate. Anything else would be the beginning of capitulation, which, fortunately, all sectors are beginning to reject because they can more clearly see now how much we have yielded, how little we have gained, and how many dangers we face.

Lopez has a clear perception of the struggle against drug trafficking. He agrees with the idea of investigating ill-gotten funds to strike at the drug traffickers, and he would extend the measures to others who have unduly enriched themselves. He justly warns, however, that the notion of instituting a veritable moral prosecution against the political parties and covering the historical groups with a pall of immorality is biased. Lopez is right. Through a dangerous "McCarthyism" we may put an end to the most precious means to fighting drug trafficking. The battle to end or to reduce the narcotics trade to the necessary proportions is more firm, calm, and resolute every day. Lopez proposes this when he suggests the mentioned measures, adding a new ingredient -- i.e., waging it with less propagandistic aspirations and more effectively -- he challenges the United States to act more resolutely in this struggle, which is in everybody's interest. [passage omitted]

Lleras bluntly brings out the reality of the guerrilla danger, the double dealing, and the progress made by subversion on various fronts. Reading his article one thinks of the ground lost from the Turbay Ayala administration to date. Many people yearn for those times. The figures mentioned by Lleras are frightening, particularly because of the ground that has been lost due to the infiltration by the UP [Patriotic Union], the FARC, and other rebel groups which, without ostensibly expanding their popular following, have an influence on and almost control over vast areas. Public opinion is surprised, and this is stressed by the former president, by the treachery in the language used by the subversives and even by those who agree with the truce. They no longer request; they demand. The no longer submit proposals; they put forth categorical formulas. The two former presidents agree that it is necessary to reinforce the Armed Forces militarily and to impose, in this way, the conditions for social peace. This is good.

Are we not at war? Let those who doubt it read Lopez's speech or Lleras' article. The blindfold is falling from the country's eyes. The former presidents are sounding the alarm and all walls, even the paper ones, will fall down. The frontal battle will be waged within a state of legality; with the Constitution in one hand and weapons in the other. No dangerous legal double-talk for the benefit of the mafias or the guerrillas will be allowed. Thank God, Colombia has already understood that "they are all one and the same."

MILITARY GIVEN EXPANDED JUDICIAL POWERS

PA191625 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Bogota -- Military forces have been empowered to serve as public prosecutors and judicial police in areas where these judicial officials are not available.

The government, based on the special powers of the state of siege, has granted this authority to the members of the Armed Forces, Air Force, and the Navy to make the struggle against drug trafficking more effective. The duties of judicial police will be carried out according to existing regulations. The military forces have also been empowered to control, prosecute, and punish the illegal possession of weapons.

BRIEFS

NEW LIBERAL PARTY LEADERSHIP -- The Colombian Liberal Party has elected its new national directorate after a 10-hour session. The new National Liberal Directorate is comprised of the following people: Ernesto Samper Pizano, Eduardo Mestre Sarmiento, Alberto Santofimio Botero, Hernando Duran Dussan, and Miguel Pinedo Vidal. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 15 Feb 87 pp 1, 2 PA]

MARIJUANA SEIZED -- Police in Bogota have dealt two major blows to drug traffickers. In Claret District, they discovered a cocaine laboratory and arrested Ana Gladys Diaz Veloza, Fermin Vargas Diaz, Nelsy Martinez Garzon, Gladys Maria Romero, Aurora Romero Suarez, and Miguel Cabrera, all of whom were placed at the disposal of the Military Institutes Brigade. In Restrepo District, the F-2, acting on a tip, confiscated approximately 2 tons of marijuana in a location disguised as an automobile repair shop. The marijuana was compressed and ready for export in 124 crates of 30 pounds each. Three men found in the repair shop were arrested. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Feb 87 p 2-a PA]

COCAINE SEIZED, 2 ARRESTED -- The Colombian National Police have arrested Hector Ronald Roca Ospina and Francisco Javier Ocampo Gonzalez, after finding 21 kg of cocaine in the false bottom of the trunk of the Oldsmobile they were driving to Girardot. The drug was presumably being taken to Ecuador. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO 11 Feb 87 p 2-a PA]

DRUG LABORATORY DISCOVERED -- The first cocaine and bazuco laboratory ever found in Cartagena has been discovered by the police. The operation was carried out early this morning with raids in two houses where 900 grams of pure cocaine, 900 grams of bazuco, and four bottles with 1 kg of coca being processed were seized. The alleged owner of the laboratory, (Guillermo Alfonso Pertut Beltran), was arrested. [Summary] [Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Feb 87 PA]

ATTORNEY GENERAL CONFIRMED -- The State Council yesterday confirmed the election of Carlos Mauro Hoyos Jimenez as Attorney General of the nation, rejecting a challenge against his election filed by a local attorney. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Feb 87 p 2-A PA]

NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR -- The new British ambassador to Colombia, Richard Alvien Neilson, has arrived in Bogota to replace John Robson who has been appointed ambassador to Norway. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 11 Feb 87 pp 1, 6 PA]

NUCLEAR REACTOR EXPANDED -- Based on a cooperation agreement with Canada, Colombia will increase the power of its only nuclear reactor, which has been in operation 22 years. The announcement was made by Ernesto Villarreal Silva, director of the Nuclear Affairs Institute. The cost of the project is approximately $10 million, and Canada will supply 100 percent of the financing. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Feb 87 p 7-b PA]

CONGRESS PRESIDENT ON FOREIGN DEBT REPAYMENT

PA151815 Quinto Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 15 Feb 87

[Text] Andres Vallejo Arcos, president of the National Congress commented that the current situation of our country regarding the foreign debt forces us to issue a call to all debtor countries to unite. He was referring to the possibility of Ecuador's not paying its financial commitments with international banks.

[Begin recording] [Vallejo] This is a situation that has been discussed for quite some time now. I do not feel our country listened to the calm, intelligent voices that, at that time were termed as [word indistinct] or motivated by revengeful opposition or something of that sort. These voices warned that the economic situation, not only that of Ecuador but of the entire Latin American region, was such that it was impossible to pay the foreign debt under the terms in which it was set up.

It had been said here that we had negotiated the best deal in the world but now we are facing the consequences. It is not a matter of wanting or not wanting to pay the foreign debt. Our countries are not to pay the debt under the terms in which it was negotiated or renegotiated. The economic situation all of Latin America is experiencing is in some ways even more acutely felt here in Ecuador. What we are seeing now proves that the warning were not idle and they were not made in a spirit of harassment or criticism. They were an objective appraisal of reality that should have led us -- and we hope that it will lead us in the future -- to strengthen our solidarity with the rest of the Latin American countries. This will allow all of us to solve a problem, that is not only economic, but political. Given the isolated position of many of our countries, it is impossible to solve the problem objectively, peacefully and for everyone's benefit. Continental solidarity is necessary now more than ever because reality has proven that we are all in a situation that can be solved in no other way.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think the economic and political situation, and in this regard an opposition Congress, have led -- as international news agencies indicate -- to a situation where we are unable to fulfill the country's international commitments?

[Vallejo] That is most emphatically false. The obvious deterioration of the economic and political situations in Ecuador have nothing to do with the fact that the opposition has a majority in Congress. You have been witnesses to all that has been occurring in the country for a long time; you have seen a deterioration of the government's political capability and image. This situation, due to the latest unfortunate incidents, has become internationally known and this is very serious for the country. [end recording]

REBELS OCCUPY GUAYAQUIL STATION, READ STATEMENT

PA190405 Paris AFP in Spanish 0344 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 18 Feb (AFP) -- Six members of the Ecuadoran Alfaro Lives Dammit group entered Radio El Muneo of this city today, overpowered its personnel, and broadcast an antigovernment proclamation. The three subversives escaped after exploding a homemade bomb that did not injure anybody, but did damage the radio installation. The owner of the radio station, Gabriel Vergara, said that none of the three subversives wore masks and that they can be identified.

COLORADO DISSIDENT ON NEED FOR SOCIAL PACT

PY172132 Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 14 Feb 87

[Text] Asuncion, 14 Feb (AFP) -- Carlos Romero Pereira, Colorado Party dissident leader, today said that the Paraguayan Government, together with the Colorado Party, should be able to lift the state of siege without dirtying its hands with the closure of newspapers or radio stations or repressing freedom of thought, opinion, and meeting. The 44-year-old politician, who was dismissed from his post as member of the Council of State for having criticized General Alfredo Stroessner's regime, is the son of former Paraguayan President Tamos Romero Pereira, who died 4 years ago, and who passed power to Stroessner in 1954.

During a meeting in the home of one of his followers in the town of Itagua, 30 km east of Asuncion, and obviously referring to what has happened to Radio Nanduti in the last few months, Romero Pereira noted that his party colleagues can no longer tolerate the interference or attacks on independent radio stations by criminals who violate party principles by committing criminal actions.

Romero Pereira also said that honest Colorados must no longer allow attacks on hospitals, unfair beatings, the expulsion of priests, or banishments, alluding directly to measures adopted by the government.

He also said that those who really identify themselves with the ruling Colorado Party must now allow the prestige and doctrine of the party to be strained with unfair imprisonments, to which some of our party members have fallen victim.

The political leader, who heads the Ethic Faction of the Colorado Party, added that passions must be appeased, and a broad amnesty must be declared; if possible, an amnesty endorsed by Congress. He stressed that we should stop preaching hatred and pretending to be deaf when an opposition member truthfully criticizes us and points out a mistake or an omission.

Our people's ambition is to go beyond the lifting of the state of seige or the establishment of an effective freedom of the press or an apparent democracy, he said. He stressed that the Paraguayan people must reorganize the country and, in order to attain this, as an initial measure he suggested the estsablishment of a social pact.

The whole political and economic system must be redesigned. We must reorganize the state apparatus and modify our foreign policy guidelines and contents, Romero Periera said. In order to accomplish this task we need to modify deeply our attitudes, values, and behavior, since it must be a task undertaken by all.

UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSION AT AIR BASE KILLS ONE

PY191829 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1733 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 19 Feb (EFE) -- Official sources have reported that one soldier died and others were wounded by a powerful explosion which occurred early today at an Air Force base. The explosion occurred at 0400 (0900 GMT), during curfew hours, at the Las Palmas Air Force base. The explosion was heard in a radius of several kilometers.

The official communique issued today at noon did not specify the exact number of injured but according to unofficial sources, there are at least a dozen. According to the communique the explosion occurred at the base's war materiel maintenance shop. The site of the explosion was damaged considerably but nearby areas suffered only minor damage. The communique states that the Air Force has begun an investigation to establish the causes of the explosion.

According to neighbors, machinegun fire was heard inside the base immediately after the explosion, and a large fire started. They added that the fire was extinguished a couple of hours later.

Shock waves destroyed several windows and doors of numerous houses in the neighborhood. The neighbors also said that they saw ambulances entering and leaving the base transporting the wounded.

Journalists have not yet been allowed to enter the area and they are being cordonned off several blocks from the base.

Since the information about the explosion is scarce, the press and observers think there is insufficient evidence to establish whether the explosion was caused by an accident or a terrorist attack.

GUERRILLAS TAKE OVER RADIO STATIONS, READ MESSAGE

PY192104 Paris AFP in Spanish 1922 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 19 Feb (AFP) -- Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) guerrillas today took over six radio stations in Lima to broadcast a message denouncing the militarization of Peru and accusing the Shining Path of provoking the government to justify and legitimize its repressive actions.

The recording, which lasted almost 5 minutes, was read by a woman after the armed guerrilias, four or five men and a woman, neutralized the radio stations' personnel, planted explosives, and threatened to blow them up if they called the police.

The takeovers were conducted simultaneously at noon in the Radio Mar, Radio R700, Radio Star, Radio Omega, Radio Comas, and Radio Cadena radio stations. Police said they captured two of the terrorists while they were fleeing one of the stations. They had in their possession pistols and dynamite sticks.

The message broadcast protested the recent police takeovers of three universities of Lima and harshly criticized the government of Social Democratic President Alan Garcia, stating that the university takeovers were a political blunder.

The message stated that it is obvious that the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] government, together with the Armed Forces High Command, is continuing to implement and escalate an antisubversive, genocidal, and dirty-war strategy, thus increasing the country's militarization. The woman said that she was speaking in the name of the MRTA Executive Board and the MIR (Revolutionary Movement of the Left), which recently joined the MRTA.

Concerning the Shining Path, the message stated that it is conducting provocative actions whose goals are to increase confrontations and the militarization of Peru.

The Shining Path's policy of selective killings is one of the most effective arguments the ARPA government uses to justify and legitimize its repressive actions, the message added.

The message also referred to the takeovers of the University of San Marcos, the Engineering University, and the University of La Cantuta, which this week were the scenes of student protests and riots. The message stated that although the takeovers were aimed at quelling alleged centers of subversion, not only will they not stop violence, but actually will increase it. The message boasted that the raid had not affected the MRTA forces because the MRTA forces are spread throughout the city, the countryside, the universities, trade unions, shantytowns, high schools, government offices, and even the barracks.

Elsewhere, the recording stated that the blows the government is dealing do not affect the MRTA, but thousands of Peruvians whose only crime is not being an APRA member.

42 ARRESTED IN RAIDS 'TOTALLY ALIEN' TO CAMPUS

PY191750 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0423 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 18 Feb (EFE) -- The Peruvian Interior Ministry today said that 42 of the 263 people arrested by police at 3 Lima unviersities are "totally alien" to the university campus.

An official ministry communique also confirmed the discovery of false identity cards, including some from different universities, false electoral registration cards, stamps, and diplomas.

The communique adds that there is a case in which one of those arrested had six different electoral registration cards, all carrying the same photograph, but different names.

During the raids against the University of San Marcos, the Enrique Guzman y Valle Engineering and the School of Education on 13 February, 793 people were arrested. According to the communique many of them were released the following day and only 263 people are still under arrest.

The communique adds that only those found to be responsible for criminal activities remain under arrest.

POLICE, STUDENTS CLASH IN LIMA; 125 ARRESTED

PY200135 Paris AFP in Spanish 2101 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 19 Feb (AFP) -- For the third day this week thousands of students today clashed with police in the streets of Lima to protest the intervention of police forces in three Lima universities.

About 125 students were arrested by police when students from several universities tried to reach downtown Lima at the conclusion of a march sponsored by the rectors of the University of San Marcos and the Engineering and Education schools, which were entered by some 4,000 policemen on 13 February in search of terrorists.

The rally, originally scheduled to be held in the Plaza San Martin, in downtown Lima, was finally held in the Plaza Grau, somewhat farther away. Hundred of students came to the plaza after noisy demonstrations at the universities. The rally, which was authorized by the government, was peaceful. The disturbances began later when groups of students tried to go to the Congress and Government Palace shouting slogans against the police intervention. On 9 and 13 February similar demonstrations ended in clashes with the police.

The most serious confrontations occurred on Colonial Avenue, which links Lima with Callao Port, where the students threw stones at police, who responded with tear gas and water cannons.

IU COMMUNIQUE CRITICIZES RAIDS, GOVERNMENTS

PY191237 Paris AFP in Spanish 2150 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 18 Feb (AFP) -- The discord between President Alan Garcia's Social Democratic government and the United Left [IU] became worse after this main opposition force protested strongly over the police raids on three Peruvian universities in Lima and denounced the growing militarization of the country.

An IU communique issued today demands the resignation of Interior Minister Abel Salinas because it considers him politically responsible for the aggression committed against the universities carried out under the pretext of searching for terrorist cells. The protest raised by this alliance of Marxist parties, headed by Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes, was followed by protest marches down the streets of Lima today at noon by student groups.

The raids constitute a new and dangerous step taken by the government to restrict democratic political life, the IU stated in one of its harshest criticisms to the ruling APRA.

A top IU leader told AFP that they request the resignation of the interior minister as a matter of routine in their protests; however, the IU considers the growing government autnoritarianism a more serious matter. He explained that such authoritarianism was evident in the following cases: when 300 terrorist who rioted last June in three Lima prisons were massacred; when Barrantes was not elected due to officialist maneuvers in the last November municipal elections; and by the growing militarization encouraged to combat the guerrillas. The IU leader said that such authoritarianism was repeated on 13 February during the raid carried out by more than 4,000 armed policemen to the San Marcos, Engineering, and La Cantuta Education Universities, resulting in the death of a worker, 793 arrests, and considerable property damage. The IU communique states that more raids on universities, labor unions, and opposition political parties headquarters, will occur in just a matter of time if the citizenry does not decidedly stop the antidemocratic escalade which is trying to APRArise [APRArizar] state and social institutions.

The government's belief that terrorist headquarters, arms caches, and subversive training centers are to be found in the universities has been proved false by the reality, given the few weapons and explosives discovered in the universities, the IU communique states.

NICARAGUA'S BORGES DISCUSSES C.A. ISSUES, VISIT

PA191530 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Commander Tomas Borge has said in Lima, Peru, that the Sandinist Armed Forces have been dealing severe blows to the armed groups, trained by U.S. advisers, that attack Nicaragua. The strategic importance of such defeats, he added, is causing the desperation of the Reagan administration, whose warmongering policy has recently been unmasked.

Borge warned that the Iran-contra scandal plus the strategic defeats of the contras might lead to a definite resolution of the crisis, but also to a large-scale direct aggression as a result of Reagan's repression. He reiterated that the Central American situation continues to be grave because the United States wants to impose its political views by force.

Borge said that the reason for his visit to Peru is basically to attend the 11th meeting of the Permanent Conference of Latin Amerian Political Parties, COPPAL, as its vice president. I have also come as a personal guest of President Alan Garcia, he added.

Borge was welcomed at the (?Crillon) Hotel by Armando Villanueva and Luis Negreiros, secretaries general of the ruling APRA, and Alfonso Barrantes, president of the United Left, the second most important political force in Peru. Tomorrow afternoon, Borge will meet with President Alan Garcia. He added that there is no prior agenda for the meeting.

SECOND SHIPMENT OF FOUR FRENCH MIRAGES ARRIVES

PY190245 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 8 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] Pisco — Four new Mirage-2000's arrived today at the General San Martin Port in Pisco from France. With this shipment there are now eight planes of this model in the country. The last shipment of four planes is expected to arrive next March.

The containers with parts for the planes were unloaded at noon today. The unloading of the fuselages is scheduled for 0500 tomorrow under strict security measures.

This is the second delivery of Mirage aircraft in accordance with an agreement with France. The first four planes arrived at the General San Martin Port last December.

DOCUMENT TO INFORM U.S. ON NATIONAL VIEW ON OIL TAX

PA190419 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Excerpts] This week, the interministerial commission, headed by the U.S. deputy secretary of energy, will learn the contents of the document drafted by the Foreign Ministry that expresses Venezuela's position in view of a possible U.S. tax on imported oil. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, Venezuelan mines and energy minister, said that the information being released to the public on the consequences of this new U.S. tax on Venezuela is very positive. Likewise, Hernandez Grisanti said that this must be brought to the attention of the U.S. authorities. He added that this is what the country will do.

The political parties will sign the document to be sent to the U.S. Congress tomorrow. Godofredo Gonzalez, president of the Social Christian Party, COPEI, and (Ismenia de Villalba), president of the Democratic Republican Union, are responsible for drafting the document. [passage omitted]

Godofredo Gonzalez was asked whether he felt the document would be well received by the U.S. Congress and political parties. He said:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] Evidently, yes. We are speaking on behalf of Venezuela. All the political parties active in Venezuela are participating in this; therefore, we are speaking on behalf of the Venezuelan people. [end recording]

If other measures must be adopted to confront this problem, Godofredo Gonzalez said that the political parties have plans to meet with the president of the Republic.

GOVERNMENT STRENGTHENING TIES WITH ARUBA

PA112006 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 4 Feb 87 pp 1,13

[By Fanny Perez V.]

[Text] The Aruban Government will state before the Venezuelan Government the need to establish a preferential price below OPEC's for their oil purchases from Venezuela.

This statement will be formally presented today by Aruba's delegation to the Mixed Aruban-Venezuelan Commission, which is meeting at the Foreign Ministry.

As announced last week, the commission's first meeting began yesterday. The commission's formation was planned during Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi's visit to Aruba at the end of 1986.

Because Aruba and Venezuela are neighboring countries and have maintained broad trade relations for many years, they intend to strengthen their trade; economic, cultural, and artistic ties; and efforts against drug-trafficking. A treaty may be signed between the two countries today to promote a joint struggle against this scourge.

In the economic field, there is one aspect that will be given special attention: Aruba's request that the Venezuelan Government sell oil to Aruba at a price below OPEC's official tariff.

This proposal will be studied today at the energy sector's work table as part of the official agenda, which also includes a meeting between the Venezuelan private sector and the official Aruban delegation. The official delegation from the neighboring island is headed by Economy Minister Elias Mansur and Robert Croes, director of the Foreign Affairs office. Venezuela is represented by Foreign Minister Consalvi, who inaugurated the bilateral meeting; Freddy Christian, director of the Foreign Ministry's international economic relations; Pedro Sorensen, director of international policy; the president of the Foreign Trade Institute; and other personalities from official circles.

In another vein, the Aruban Government is interested in offering itself to Venezuela, specifically to private businessmen, as a bridge for raw materials produced in Venezuela to enter the EEC and the United States without payment of tariffs, through the Caribbean basin program sponsored by the U.S. Government. This initiative could be implemented through the creation of mixed companies by Venezuelan and Aruban businessmen.

Freddy Christian, head of the Venezuelan delegation, said that this meeting is very important, primarily because it is important for our country to increase its nontraditional exports to Aruba, which purchases Venezuelan products at low prices because of the florin's purchasing power in comparison to the bolivar. Venezuela aspires to increase its cooperation in the fields of education, trade, fighting of drug-trafficking, and energy. Christian said that this meeting is the starting point in strengthening relations between the two countries. One such effort will be the signing of a joint agreement to act against drug-trafficking, since both Venezuela and Aruba are used as bridges for the activities of the international "mafia."

ARMY CREATES SPECIAL ELECTRONIC WARFARE UNIT

PA140320 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Feb 87 p D-15

[Text] The Venezuelan Army is entering an area of technological and scientific development in military fields with their newly formed Special Electronic Warfare Unit with highly sophisticated equipment for tactical systems.

According to the Army general commander, Division General Eliodoro Guerrero Gomez, this unit has the specific function of interfering with enemy forces' communications. This unit is formed by a battalion with four platoons of more than 100 people who trained for 6 months on the use of the equipment. Their mission is to plan and implement offensive and defensive electronic warfare. The unit has been assigned to the Army's Intelligence Directorate and to the Combat Communications Regiment of the Army's Strategic Command. Gen Guerrero explained the concept of electronic warfare as military actions that involve the use of radiated electromagnetic energy to guarantee the efficient use of the electromagnetic spectrum by friendly forces, while blocking efficient use by enemy forces.

By nature, it is considered a nonlethal weapon, but it has a multiplicative combat potential, as electronic warfare reduces the enemy's combat power while ours increases. "Electronic warfare on its own will not win a war, but without a doubt the enemy's lack of defensive systems against its use could make us lose effectiveness." [sentence as published] Gen Guerrero said that electronic warfare has made its winning appearance in the battlefield and will remain there. Our Army, with the support of the High Command, could not turn its back on the innovative and valuable system represented by the most complex and sophisticated weapon within our institution's communications and electronics inventory.

FINANCE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCES ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA200023 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Feb 87 pp 1-A, 12-A

[Text] Monterrey, Neuvo Leon State, 13 Feb -- Bank of Mexico General Manager Miguel Mandera Aguayo has said that in 1987 a "very accelerated devaluation rate will not be necessary," adding that the bank's internal interest rates will go down 20 percent at the end of the year, as the inflation rate goes down.

Speaking at the installation of the new board of directors of this city's banking center, Mancera Aguayo said the possibilities are more clear "for combating inflation and restarting development." In addition, he said that "dependency on foreign credit has been dropping and will continue to do so at a rapid rate."

He recalled that in 1986 Mexico was able to handle the crisis in an orderly manner and that it will continue to do so at a rapid rate."

He recalled that in 1986 Mexico was able to handle the crisis in an orderly manner and that it was possible to avoid its negative effects thanks to an accelerated devaluation. He said that "at that time this measure was indispensible because of the balance of payments situation," but that it was done at a cost: "The inflation rate went up."

Mancera Aguayo recalled that 1 year ago "Mexico was experiencing a very difficult time. The price of oil had just collapsed, meaning the country would lose $8.5 billion in foreign currency" during the year. This was the equivalent of 6 percent of GNP.

In addition, the international credit outlook was uncertain. There was no possibility of reaching a quick agreement with foreign financial insitutions that would enable us to have the resources to bear the brunt of the crisis. This was the situation, although by the end of September an agreement in principle had been arranged. For that reason, "we spent the year virtually without foreign credit for the public sector and with negative credit for the private sector, because we had to pay off its debts."

The official said that although the drop in 1986 oil prices was equal to 6 percent of GNP, "a significant increase in nonpetroleum exports of a little more than 30 percent compensated for the loss in aggregate value." He added, "according to initial estimates, GNP decreased between 3 and 4 percent. [no end quotation marks as published] Mancera Aguayo presided over the ceremony to install the new directorate of this city's Banking Center. Carlos Rodriguez Assemat replaced Ramiro Villareal Morales in the presidency.

Later, in a press conference, Mancera Aguayo said that "although there was a negative financing and virtually no net foreign credit for the private sector in 1986, the Mexican economy underwent a profound evolution."

He pointed out that the economy "has entered and will continue through the so-called structural changes, in a process to become increasingly efficient that in the end will determine whether the standard of living of Mexicans will improve."

The Central Bank director pointed out that we "must now take advantage of clear opportunities to fight off inflation and step up development" after overcoming "the enormous balance of payments crisis and production loss [as published] last year."

He said that the fact that we overcame such a difficult phase "in an orderly way, by lessening negative effects, without resorting to the suspension of foreign debt payments, and without having to restore a generalized adminstrative restriction on imports should fill with satisfaction those who believe in Mexico's ability to tackle problems with common sense and determination."

Mancera Aguayo said that "such an accelerated devaluation is no longer reasonable. We only have to maintain the great competitive position achieved to ensure that export activity and the natural substitution of imports will continue with dynamism."

He said that "corrections in public finances will continue"; in addition, "we have programmed an increase in the primary surplus -- that is, the balance before the payment of interests -- by 3 percent of GNP."

He added that "the program for the gradual and prudent, but persistent, reduction in the level of protection against imports will also continue as well as the firm support for efforts to make productive plants more efficient through the so-called industrial reconversion."

Finally, Mancera Aguayo said that treasury certificates (cetes) will continue to play their current role for several months this year; their issuance and interest rates "can be gradually relaxed as the tidying up of public finances proceeds and national revenues increase."

UNOMASUNO VIEWS CONSEQUENCES OF UNEMPLOYMENT

PA190458 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 15 Feb 87 p 3

[Editorial: "Unemployment, a Destabilizer of Society"]

[Text] In the social manifestations of the economic crisis, unemployment and underemployment constitute the problems, which demand a costly and most complex solution. Although there are no official figures showing the true unemployment rate, a simple trip through the Federal District streets or the number of applicants for even the lowliest job indicate that unemployment has already raached levels that are dangerous for the stability of our society.

Interviewed by UNOMASUNO, Salvador Garcia Linan asked: Who will create the necessary jobs? The government cannot. Quite the contrary, it must reduce or at least keep the present number of jobs. Similarly, the big industries cannot either because, as the director of the Mexican Institute of Medium- and Small-Size Enterprises, (IMMPE) has said, the big concerns must out of necessity decrease the number of their employees when they introduce automation. This automation is necessary if the enterprise is to remain competitive. The answer to this problem lies with small- and medium-sized enterprises, which not only constitute 94 percent of the country's productive concerns, but also are the most important source of jobs in the country. According to preliminary figures of the 1985 economic census published last week by the SPP [Secretariat of Planning and Budget], the industries employ an average of 19 workers and the general average per unit of production is 6.7 people.

Nevertheless, the current economic problems and programs have diverted the attention from this sector, which constitutes the true basis for the national production system and the creation of jobs. For instance, the reduction of true salaries with the purpose of making the export industry more competitive has drastically lowered consumption and affected the small- and medium-sized enterprises that depend almost entirely on the domestic market. This has affected the stability of the sector and lowered its labor requirements and increased unemployment, thus pressuring the domestic market again and bringing about a spiraling movement that not only increasingly strangles the economy but raises the social cost of the crisis in a geometric proportion.

The relationship between the degree of employment, the domestic market, and the small- and medium-sized enterprises requires specific plans and solutions beyond casual programs and stimuli. As the IMMPE correctly maintains, it should be assumed that "the tax rates, public services, and even certain labor laws" cannot be applied indiscriminately to big and family-sized enterprises as well. The crisis is only one, but it is not the same for all of the production agencies, and not all of them have the same social impact.

We must act on the premise that the current crisis, more than an economic one, constitutes a chain of economic, social, and political factors that operate as a whole and affect each other. If this were not true, how would we be able to prevent the constant increase of unemployment without stimulating the domestic market, redistributing revenues, and lowering the transfer of currency abroad? We must ask: How would it be possible for us to again grow economically while ignoring part of our human potential?

ISRAEL'S SHAMIR COMMENTS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS

FL192321 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2156 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Washington, 19 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told NOTIMEX today that bilateral relations between Israel and Mexico are good despite some disagreements on international issues.

During a brief talk with the Mexican news agency's correspondent prior to a press conference in Washington's National Press Club, Shamir said that in his opinion, some of Mexico's votes at the United Nations have been anti-Israel.

However, at the same time, he said that bilateral relations are good. Shamir could not respond to the possibility of an exchange of visits between the leaders of the two countries, but he recalled that he was in Mexico when he was Israeli foreign minister. He noted the friendly relations that existed at that time with former Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda even though differences of opinion did exist.

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA, COCAINE SEIZURE -- The Federal Highway Police confiscated a marijuana shipment worth about 500 million pesos on the Reynosa-Monterrey highway. At Tampico, authorities destroyed 1,179,000 kg of raw marijuana and 538 kg of cocaine, and arrested 41 people. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Feb 87 pp 1, 4 Estados Supplement PA]

GEN NORIEGA DENIES LINK WITH SPANISH CRIMINAL

PA181707 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1126 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Madrid, 18 Feb (EFE) — Panamanian General Manuel Antonio Noriega has denied any links between the Panamanian Armed Forces and Spanish military man Carlos Calvete Amezaga, arrested and imprisoned in Madrid, and charged with embezzlement. In a note published today by DIARIO 16, the commander in chief of the Panamanian Defense Force [FDP] refuted the report published on Monday by the Spanish newspaper that links his name several times with that of Army Lieutenant Colonel Carlos Calvete.

The sum allegedly embezzled by Calvete from the Army's intervention department amounts to 297 million pesetas some $2.3 million. Calvete was in charge of this department. In his letter, Noriega affirms: "We reject any information or malicious news spread by people who have violated the laws and have never received shelter in our territory. Rather, they have been delivered to the authorities seeking them."

Noriega explained that the relations of the FDP with all officers of the armed forces in the world "are cordial," and "professional." He added that the mentioned people "never had any relation with FDP Logistic department." According to the DIARIO 16 report, Calvete was linked to the Panamanian enterprise Comexpa, which exported gift items to Central America through the enterprise Ibesa, directed by the Spaniard Alfonso Bravo Luna, whose whereabouts are unknown.

According to DIARIO 16, Bravo Luna has links with Colombian drug trafficker Jorge Luis Ochoa and also works with the Panamanian company Cominasa, which exploited gold mines in the Darien jungles, on the Panamanian and Colombian border.

The paper adds that Bravo Luna and some Cominasa partners had identification cards as FDP collaborators, which gave them much freedom to move around the country. According to DIARIO 16, Calvete was introduced to Noriega, who gave Calvete a picture with his autograph, which ws published by DIARIO 16.

Regarding this subject, Gen Noriega said that "high-ranking officers' pictures, and in particular his own pictures, are requested every day by local people and foreigners; even collectors request them by mail."

In his statements to DIARIO 16, Carlos Calvete said: "During my stay in Panama, I had an official vehicle from the Armed Forces available and there was a military man dressed in civilian clothes guarding me at the hotel where I was staying."

ABADIA VIEWS CANAL MANAGEMENT IN YEAR 2000

PA190426 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Report by Joaquin Maisson and Rene Espinoza]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias today issued a strong reply to the statement made by William Gianelli, chairman of the Panama Canal Commission's Board of Directors, who said that the United States had yet to decide on the Panamanian administrators' activities within the Panama Canal Commission in 1990.

[Begin Abadia recording] Really, we were surprised by this gentleman's statements because we are aware of his administrative capacity and responsibility. However, we could not care less who issues similar statements -- regardless of his position in the U.S. Government or the Panama Canal Commission. We have a document issued by the State Department that certifies that the canal will be returned to Panama as is stated in the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. Panama will accept nothing more and nothing less. The canal will belong to Panama in the year 2000 and if any North American believes he will remain in Panama and will continue to rule or handle the canal's activities, we respectfully tell him: Get dressed, you are definitely leaving! [end recording]

IMPACT OF PROJECT DEMOCRACY ON COUNTRY VIEWED

PA200129 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Feb 87, p 4

["Today" column by Demetrio Olaciregui: "National Foundation for Democracy"]

[Text] As the days go by, the Reagan administration's shady operation consisting of organizing a team parallel to the State Department to manage foreign affairs without having to answer to the U.S. Congress, is coming more and more to light.

The initial plans for this organization were presented in June 1982. Subsequently, in August of the same year, the White House put the finishing touches on the organization, which was finally given authorization in January 1983 by an executive order signed by President Reagan. The funds were donated by private foundations and by conservative governments friendly to the United States, both in Europe and the Middle East. Once the plan had been launched, the White House National Security Council gave it the code name Project Democracy. The National Foundation for Democracy managed the funds needed for the various operations. This was the mechanism used not only to sell arms to Iran and give the profits to the Nicaraguan mercenaries, but also to deliver printing presses and subversive materials to opposition groups in European socialist countries. In addition, it was used to help the Angolan mercenaries and the rebels in Afghanistan.

Project Democracy, moreover, influenced the elections in Guatemala, Hondura, El Salvador, and Costa Rica and worked to prevent the union of the Haitian democratic groups, thus causing them to lose the elections. Within the framework of a typical anti-communist crusade, the operation sought to unite Central American and Caribbean rightist forces to create tools that would give political support to U.S. interests in the region.

In this regard, the Reagan administration's Project Democracy launched an overt campaign against democratic sectors within armed forces -- such as the Panama Defense Forces -- and progressive groups within the Catholic Church and political parties. In the case of Panama, the objective is to prevent full compliance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. Fortunately, as a result of the Iran-contra scandal, the Project Democracy team has been virtually dismantled. Some members were fired, and others resigned to prevent the investigations from getting to the bottom of things. One member of that organization who is still in office is Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

COSTA RICA

MADRIGAL DESCRIBES TALK WITH NICARAGUAN ENVOY

PA191647 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto this afternoon delivered the Costa Rican peace proposal presented to the Guatemalan, Salvadoran, and Honduran presidents, Vinicio Cerezo, Jose Napoleon Duarte, and Jose Azcona, respectively, to Nicaraguan Ambassador Claudia Chamorro Barrios.

The Sandinist diplomat arrived at the Foreign Ministry at 1425, while the foreign minister arrived at 1435, 5 minutes after the schedule time for the meeting. The Costa Rican foreign minister and the Nicaraguan ambassador met in private in the Yellow House's Golden Room for over 1 hour and 40 minutes.

Madrigal Nieto said that the meeting was a frank and broad exchange of views regarding the presidential meeting. He added that they examined the two government's positions in a very objective way. Although we may have different viewpoints, it is always interesting to discuss them, Madrigal Nieto stressed. He added: The Nicaraguan ambassador informed me that in a few minutes she will give me a communique issued by the Nicaraguan Government.

Madrigal Nieto said that he delivered to the Nicaraguan ambassador an invitation to President Daniel Ortega to a presidential summit in Esquipulas as well as a copy of the Costa Rican peace proposal.

Regarding the Nicaraguan position expressed in a communique issued in Managua this afternoon to the effect that the Costa Rican peace proposal should have the Contadora Group's approval, Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto said that this idea will be analyzed. He added: The Costa Rican Government has repeatedly said that we do not oppose or confront the Contadora Group; we position ourselves within the Contadora Group's context.

Madrigal Nieto said he does not understand what they [the Nicaraguans] want to say, adding that the idea will not be discussed in Esquipulas, Guatemala, as it would warrant a meeting for that specific purpose. Once we have read the text [of the communique] we will evaluate it and, if necessary, we will demand the pertinent clarifications from the Managua government.

Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto noted that once Costa Rica receives any notification or communique from Nicaragua, it receives it on behalf of the rest of the governments in the area. In this regard, Costa Rica will inform Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras of the views and ideas expressed by Nicaragua so that they, too, can analyze them and determine what Nicaragua is trying to say. Does it mean that Nicaragua will not go to Esquipulas and would rather go to the Contadora Group, or does Nicaragua want to say: Let us go to Esquipulas to discuss the matter? In any case, the Costa Rican peace proposal must be discussed and handled within the Contadora Group's framework, which would be another alternative, Madrigal Nieto stressed.

EL SALVADOR

COURT STRIKES DOWN NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY TAX

PA200151 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] We have information from the Supreme Court of Justice. The representatives of the private sector who filed a petition to have the national sovereignty tax declared unconstitutional will be notified about the ruling. Dr Antonio Rodriguez Port and Conrado Lopez Andreu [not further identified] have been called by Dr Trejos, secretary of the Supreme Court of Justice, to notify them of the ruling issued by the court concerning the petition filed by the country's private sector.

[Begin Trejos recording] I hereby notify Dr Jose Antonio Rodriguez Port and Dr Ulises Flores, the petitioners, about the Supreme Court of Justice ruling concerning their petition to declare unconstitutional the decree which creates the tax for the defense of our national sovereignty. The ruling states the following:

According to the petition, the corresponding constitutional provisions, and Articles 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of the law of constitutional procedures, [the Supreme Court of Justice] rules the following:

The decree that creates the tax for the defense of our national sovereignty, which is outlined in Legislative Decree No. 418, dated 2 October 1986, and published in OFFICIAL GAZETTE No 183, Book 293, dated 3 October 1986, is declared unconstitutional. This includes the additions and reforms to the decree, issued through Decree No. 579, dated 20 January 1987, and published in OFFICIAL GAZETTE No 14, Book 294, dated 22 January 1987,

This ruling must be published in OFFICIAL GAZETTE within 15 days and a copy of it must be sent to the director of that newspaper or, as the case may be, to one of the most widely read newspapers in this city, according to Article 11 in the law of constitutional procedures. [end recording]

ACEVEDO GIVES STANCE ON SAN JOSE PEACE PROPOSAL

PA192248 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Report by Guillermo Valencia]

[Excerpts] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta today revealed El Salvador's position on the Costa Rican peace proposal and the Central American crisis in general, which was analyzed last Sunday in San Jose, Costa Rica during the Central American presidents' summit meeting — from which Nicaragua was excluded. [passage omitted]

[Begin Acevedo recording] El Salvador's position about the Costa Rican proposal in particular and on the Central American crisis in general:

1. Costa Rica's peace proposal clearly shows the existence of a political willingness in Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras to continue with a regional dialogue and to attain peace.

2. Peace must be attained through a framework of concessions from all the parties, which is based on a sincere dialogue through which all the countries make some kind of concession.

3. Peace, security, and cooperation are the basis for an authentic coexistence and can only be attained through a process which ensures a permanent and effective, plural, free, and open democracy. In other words, peace cannot be achieved without democracy. Consequently, we will present our proposals, since it is understood that everything must be linked with a verifiable democratization process in the five countries, particularly in Nicaragua.

4. Peace, security, and democracy will only be achieved by creating a verification and control system for all the agreements which are signed by the five countries, in an overall, simultaneous, and multilateral way. We have not discarded the Contadora process and we advocate the formula which involves an overall, simultaneous, and multilateral character for the agreements.

5. The plan presented by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias basically contains the 21 points outlined in the Contadora Group's document of objectives, which has already been endorsed by the five Central American countries. Therefore, the document represents a gesture of goodwill and positive decision to continue the dialogue within that context, seeking the mechanisms that will guarantee its effectiveness. Consequently, the document presented by Costa Rica is viable, timely, and constructive, and Nicaragua is urged to analyze it.

6. The five Central American countries' goodwill and participation is necessary to attain peace and democracy in the region. Naturally, this includes Nicaragua because the internal problems in that country -- and their repercussions and consequences in other countries -- have caused the crisis which prevails in the area.

7. The region's friendly or allied countries which are directly or indirectly involved or interested in a solution to the crisis which prevails in the region must necessarily design or improve an overall, complete, and joint strategy, parallel to the Central American strategy. These countries' strategies must adequately implement measures that help consolidate the peace process. [end recording]

The foreign minister also said that the proposal presented by Oscar Arias' government again provides an opportunity to attain peace in the region and encourages the Contadora process, which had recently reached an impasse.

Referring to the upcoming presidential summit meeting, to be held in Guatemala within 90 days, Acevedo Peralta asserted that El Salvador will participate in the meeting with its best spirit of unity and understanding; and urged the Nicaraguan Government to prove its political willingness by participating in the negotiations and joining the democratic process which is being undertaken by the other Central American countries.

CASTILLO DENIES AGREEMENT ON TALKS WITH REBELS

PA191832 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Today Vice President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount denied that there are agreements with FDR-FMLN representatives to hold bimonthly meetings to analyze the humanization of the country's conflict. Here is a report by Carlos Armando Rivera:

[Begin recording] [Castillo Claramount] It is not true that there is an agreement in the terms that have been mentioned. As far as I know from the people who participated in the meetings -- Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes and Fidel Chavez Mena -- the discussions were not in those terms. No agreement or commitment was established with dates, terms, days, etc. Naturally, there was talk about this possibility and about the need to promote such a thing. There was talk about the advantages of holding these meetings. This was undoubtedly mentioned but not in a specific way as a formal commitment would entail. That has not taken place.

[Unidentified reporter] Does this mean that you will reiterate the opinion of the church or will the government issue a negative reply?

[Castillo Claramount] No, the problem is not what the church or the bishop says or does not say at this time. I do not think that is the point. It is not a matter of contradicting or confirming what the bishop said. The important thing is to advance, in a process of rapprochement. I think that is important. That is valid and true. This is something that must be done.

[Rivera] According to the Catholic Church officials, the proposal to discuss the humanization of the conflict every 2 months seeks to keep open the path of dialogue and debate of the basic problems. [end recording]

REBELS CLAIM U.S. HELICOPTER 'VIOLATED' AIRSPACE

PA200055 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0025 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] We urge all our units to remain alert and be prepared for combat, in order to reject the U.S. aggression. We also urge the popular movement to remain alert to the events that may take place in Morazan Department. We warn the U.S. troops that are currently in Honduran territory, the 82d Airborne Division, that we are ready and prepared to counter and defeat the imperialist aggression in whatever form it may be carried out. A U.S. helicopter that is surely participating in the [words indistinct] maneuvers currently under way in Honduran territory has entered our airspace in Morazan Department, flying over the general area of Perquin.

We are waiting for developments and are prepared to engage in a fight with the U.S. troops any time.

We will continue to advise our people about the situation that prevails in Morazan Department in the measure that events continue to develop, at a time when a U.S. helicopter [words indistinct] brazenly and aggressively violated our airspace. We repeat, we are prepared to engage in a fight with the U.S. troops any time.

VENCEREMOS: SAN JOSE MEETING 'TOTAL FAILURE'

PA181525 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] The Tegucigalpa Bloc has been blocked. The meeting of Central American presidents, with the exception of Nicaragua, which took place over the past weekend in San Jose, Costa Rica, was a total failure. The presidents who attended the meeting failed to reach agreement on a proposal presented by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

The San Jose meeting, which was sponsored by the so-called Tegucigalpa Bloc -- composed of the Honduran, Costa Rican, and Salvadoran puppet governments -- was aimed at displacing the Contadora Group -- composed of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama -- as a peace alternative for Central America, and at the same time isolating Nicaragua. However, Jose Azcona of Honduras, Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador, Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala, and Oscar Arias of Costa Rica failed to reach an agreement on a proposal presented by Arias to intervene in Nicaragua's domestic affairs.

Evidently the proposal was drafted by the U.S. State Department. However, what supposedly would find no obstacles proved the contrary. The puppets meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, failed in their attempts. Although the points of disagreement have not been disclosed, it can be said that even though Nicaragua was not present, it achieved a diplomatic victory. The next meeting, which will take place in 3 months, will be held in Esquipulas [Guatemala] and Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra will be present at that meeting.

The Tegucigalpa Bloc's failure in San Jose, Costa Rica, also shows that despite U.S. efforts the Contadora Group is still alive, as are the Latin American initiatives.

The Reagan administration has failed again, and of course, its puppets -- including Napoleon Duarte -- have also failed.

GUATEMALA

UK TROOPS REPORTEDLY OPERATING IN PETEN

PA192022 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemalan citizen (Oscar Ralda) charged in Guatemala City tonight that British troops have reportedly established their operation center in Poptun, Peten. According to the information, the actions of the British forces are carried out in a place known as (La Comadera), approximately 10 km from the border with Belizean territory. The report indicates that the activities of about 100 Guatemalans have been affected by this action. The informant said that the British troops built three heliports in that area, in the process clearing close to 110 square meters. He added that the number of British soldiers who arrive in the location constantly varies and that the Guatemalans have been virtually evicted from the area.

A written report on this was sent to President Vinicio Cerezo in January, (Ralda) said, adding that authorities of the Poptun military base and the Peten Promotion and Development Enterprise are also aware of the case, but they have yet to react.

The informant concluded by stating that members of the Guatemalan Army who were building a road in that region refrained from extending it to the border with Belize apparently because of the British military presence in the area.

VICE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD'S SON MURDERED 12 FEB

PA130248 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0051 GMT 13 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The son of Colonel Mario Enrique Paiz Bolanos, who is the vice presidential chief of staff, was shot to death today after having been kidnapped by a group of unidentified persons.

Mario Paiz Berganza, age 20, and another unidentified youth were kidnapped here last night, and were found today shot to death on the highway to El Salvador, 11 km east of Guatemala City.

The National Police reported that the two youths were taken to the highway in the automobile of Paiz Berganza. The car was found abandoned. The police report added that the bodies had bullet wounds made by 9-mm caliber weapons that are used only by the Guatemalan Army. The bodies also showed signs that they had been maltreated.

The police said it did not know what the reasons were for murdering Paiz Berganza and his friend, but added that "we are conducting very thorough investigations to solve this murder."

HONDURAS

FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ ON CONTADORA DOCUMENT

PA191818 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Feb 87 pp 1, 16, 35

[Report on interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by EXCELSIOR correspondent J. Contreras Salcedo in Guatemala City on 14 February]

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Feb -- For Honduras there is a clear imbalance in the final draft of the Contadora document that Honduras cannot accept: Honduras -- along with other countries -- is forced to immediately fulfill security measures regarding military maneuvers and cooperation with the United States, while Nicaragua's relationship with the Soviet bloc "is put off for a future negotiating process that might or might not have specific results."

Therefore, Hondurans cannot accept provisional or partial agreements that only benefit one of the sides, Honduras Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras told EXCELSIOR when he was interviewed shortly before leaving Guatemala upon the conclusion of the ministerial meeting of Central America, the EEC, and the Contadora Group.

Speaking with conviction, the most moderate of the Central American foreign ministers who came to Guatemala, Lopez Contreras, said in regard to the San Jose meeting that "Costa Rica very clearly links the state of insecurity with the current Nicaraguan political regime, and we also see the dangerous links that Nicaragua has with political systems that have no connection with democratic systems, as well as the military evolution that the Sandinists have experienced."

Foreign Minister Lopez Contreras also said that the Managua-Moscow link represents "a potential threat for Honduras," and he stated again that his government will not deploy any more troops to the border area with Nicaragua because Honduras cannot neglect its internal security to stop the contras, which benefits a state "with which we have problems and which represents military, political, and subversive threats to us."

A young diplomat, approximately 35 years old, Lopez Contreras is also the person who during the plenary meeting of 21 European and Latin American countries that took place here stressed that his country does not want partial agreements to resolve the area's problems.

Foreign Minister Contreras did not give too much information about tomorrow's meeting [in San Jose], but he added that Honduras has a clear position: It does not want a confrontation with Nicaragua caused by existing tensions, much less caused by the problem they have.

Foreign Minister Contreras said that effective control and verification systems should be created, above all in the areas related to the reduction in the number of troops and in the control of the military level in the various countries of the region. "Obviously, we are not saying that limits will be established and that they will be put into effect overnight. No. We agree that those limits have to be scheduled gradually, and this is why control mechanisms are needed."

Lopez Contreras reiterated that Honduras will not agree with the establishment of partial solutions that will safeguard the situation of one of the area countries "while completely neglecting the security interests of the rest of the countries."

Lopez Contreras denied that Honduras is offering its territory for the Nicaraguan contras "to launch attacks from Honduras against neighboring countries whether it be Nicaragua or El Salvador. However," he added, "the truth is that Honduras is a very big country and that if we are to exercise strict control it would have to be exercised through a strong military deployment. We cannot do this because we would be jeopardizing our domestic security," he stressed.

To the question of why Nicaragua was not invited to the San Jose meeting, Lopez answered that the question should be made to the hosts of the meeting: "We are going to the meeting to carefully listen to the proposals that a democratic government that has borders with Nicaragua will make, because obviously one cannot deny that there are tensions in Central America" and that we are trying to reduce them.

Regarding the situation at the ICJ [International Court of Justice] in The Hague, where Honduras is facing a suit brought by the Sandinists, Lopez Contreras said that there is a certain infringement of the stipulations of the Bogota pact, to which the Nicaraguans resort so much. That pact establishes that "when one state agrees to abide by peaceful procedures to resolve disagreements with another state, it should be ruled by it until all possibilities are exhausted before resorting to another procedure."

Lopez Contreras calmly added: "Here it was clearly established that the Contadora Group political negotiating method has not been exhausted. Moreover, the political statement issued at the meeting that ended in Guatemala a few days ago established that the only viable solution for the Central American conflicts is through the Contadora Group."

Finally, Carlos Lopez Contreras stressed that in the San Jose meeting Honduras would reaffirm its position by which it rejects confrontations with Nicaragua. The Sandinists try to turn those confrontations into an international situation, "but they are not an international situation. They constitute an internal military situation with civil war connotations, and obviously nobody wants to be pushed into that situation."

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA RELEASES FSLN DOCUMENT ON REVOLUTION

PA191623 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Feb 87 p 5

[Text] The intensification of the counterrevolution's strategic defeat through the annihilation and break-up of the mercenary military units and the simultaneous consolidation of the social sectors wrested from the enemy are some of the actions aiming at the attainment of the main strategic, military objective included in the FSLN ruling document [documento rector] released by the FSLN through President Ortega yesterday.

The military aspects of the document include the neutralization of those sectors that are still under the influence of the mercenary forces, while the advances in the national defense system are consolidated in the face of the danger of a military escalation of the aggression or of an unexpected invasion.

Yesterday, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega stressed the importance of the military situation by asking all FSLN members, mass organizations, and patriotic sectors to strengthen the military reserve, improve fortifications for the defense of Managua, and consolidate the achievements that have prevented the creation of an internal counterrevolutionary front.

The main country's cadres, the Sandinist National Assembly, the EPS general staff, the MINT [Nicaraguan Interior Minister] higher directorate, the cabinet, the leadership of mass organizations, directors of state institutions and enterprises, and FSLN members in general were encouraged by President Ortega to lead the fulfillment of this main strategic objective.

The protection of the country's economic and strategic targets and of the revolutionary leaders themselves in the face of terrorist plans, as well as the consolidation of the main structures of power before an unexpected Yankee invasion were also included as tasks of the strategic objective.

The FSLN asked the Sandinist youth to make more vigorous advancements in their work with the youth of the Patriotic Military Service. It also announced that the mobilization levels of the defense plans will be maintained at the same ratio as last year.

Similarly, efforts will be made to improve the moral and political readiness of military reserve members for the fulfillment of missions outside specific area delegated to the military reserve members, Ortega said.

The FSLN ruling document -- presented by the coordinator of the FSLN Executive Commission -- emphasizes the importance of the EPS and MINT orientation programs to develop combatants' food consumption self-sufficiency while taking into account the country's difficult economic situation.

Ortega said that we have started off 1987 amid great tensions because of the failure of the Yankee policy to destroy the revolution. He explained that military defense is a prevailing concern, although the productive, social, political, internal, and foreign tasks should also be vigorously strengthened as well.

Ortega pointed out that the aggression has inflicted 37,594 casualties on the Nicaraguan people, of which 19,664 (52.3 percent) enlisted as mercenaries of the U.S. Administration for various reasons.

Approximately $2,821,000,000 property damage and the high number of casualties "represent the high price we have to pay to defend the conquered freedom," Ortega stressed.

"As an imperialist project to cast doubts on the revolutionary military power, the counterrevolution has failed completely," the FSLN ruling document pointed out. "However, as long as the imperialist will to destroy our revolution and the complicity of the Central American countries exist, the total elimination of the counterrevolution will require the continuous and vigorous efforts of the entire nation."

"We cannot afford a single minute of rest until we eliminate the last of the mercenaries," the document adds.

On orienting and assessing political actions in the country's interior, the National Directorate has pointed out that the strategic defeat of the mercenary forces has increased irreversibly and that progress has been achieved in the restructuring of the alliance with the peasants.

Military victories, agrarian reform, peasants' settlements, supply and price policies, and the FSLN's improved organization for political work have strengthened the social basis of the revolution and restored social and productive activities in very important zones.

President Ortega noted, however, that despite the progress achieved, "some peasant sectors are still under enemy influence."

The FSLN's National Directorate urged the government, productive sectors, and workers to conscientiously recognize the need to foster the fulfillment of working standards, increase production, improve labor discipline and the care of machinery and tools, and rationalize resources to achieve production goals.

It will be the FSLN's duty to make sure this task is completed at all levels, Ortega remarked. Why? "Ensuring that the people get their food entails the commitment of the best efforts to increase food production."

Another objective is to broaden and strengthen the production vanguard movement (members of economic brigades who excel in their work). This movement must drive the production effort and become the center of our political activities in the working class.

The member of the FSLN's National Directorate stressed the responsibility of all FSLN members to foster the distribution of basic consumption goods by backing the consolidation of territorial networks with the support of the CDS [Sandinist Defense Committees] movement and even seeing to it that products are properly distributed through general stores.

The document directs FSLN members to join the organized forces in state agencies, manufacturing plants, production centers, and so forth, to combat corruption, theft of products, and bribing, all of which feed the speculative market, affect distribution policy, and corrupt the conscience of workers and the people at large.

FSLN members should help mobilize the people to create an awareness and generate the rejection of illegal acquisitions and report speculators. The president continued: It is necessary to combat the habit of some to sell in the speculative market the products they receive as supplies for priority sectors.

The measures also contemplates strengthening the judicial system to raise society's ability to prosecute and punish economic crimes.

Referring to foreign policy, Commander Ortega said that Nicaragua will have relations with Latin American and Caribbean countries, particularly with the Contadora and Support Group countries, by backing the recent initiative fostered for Centeral America jointly with the UN and OAS secretaries general.

The FSLN will try to increase the number of contacts between the Nicaraguan state and party and the government sectors, parties, trade unions, the military, and entrepreneurs in Central America, President Ortega added.

We will continue to show to the U.S. people the illegality of the Reagan administration's policy against Nicaragua. Domestically, we will continue to make efforts to improve our relations with the church. Ortega also said it is necessary to pave the way for municipal elections.

520 CITIZENS REPATRIATED IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY

PA191506 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Report of the Foreign Ministry Information and Press Directorate; date not given]

[Text] The Information and Press Directorate of the Foreign Ministry reports: During January and February, 520 Miskito-origin and white Nicaraguan citizens were repatriated through the El Espino and Penas Blancas border posts.

The breakdown of those repatriated is as follows: 15 January, El Espino post: 69 whites, 10 Miskitos; 21 January, Penas Blancas post: 7 whites, 2 Miskitos; 28 January, El Espino post: 250 Miskitos; 5 February, El Espino post: 119 Miskitos; 12 February, El Espino post: 58 Miskitos; 13 February, Penas Blancas post: 5 whites.

EPS INFLICTS 162 CASUALTIES IN 71 CLASHES

PA181625 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] In 71 clashes with counterrevolutionary groups in Region 6 between 28 January and 15 February, EPS troops killed 162 counterrevolutionaries, inflicted an undetermined number of injuries, and recovered large amounts of military armaments and terrorist documents.

Between 28 and 31 January, the EPS fought contras who entered Los Nogales, 8 km from (?Plan de Grama); La Camaleona, 6 km from Wiwili; and the areas of La Jujona, east of Pantasma, inflicting 57 counterrevolutionary casualties and an undetermined number of injuries.

Similarly, in the area of Piedra Blanca, Linda Vista, 15 km northeast of Waslala, the EPS fought the contras, inflicting another 11 fatilities. On 15 January, the EPS clashed in the areas of El Platano, El Diamante, El Bambuzal, La Pitahaya, Los Copales de Paigua, Waslala, El Cua, Mulukuku, El Cacao, Rancho Grande, and Wasayama.

In those actions, the EPS -- along with the MINT [Nicaragua Interior Minister], the Sandinist Peoples Militias, and the rapid hunter battalions -- recovered 24 rifles, 1 LAW rocket, 1 RPG-7 rocket launcher, and 12 packs containing military materiel and important documents.

SERGIO RAMIREZ INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, REGIONAL ISSUES

AU181206 Vienna NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG in German 15 Feb 87 p 4

[Report on interview with Vice President Sergio Ramirez by unidentified NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG reporter in Nicaragua; date not given]

[Excerpt] Nicaragua: In answer to a question on current developments, Vice President Ramirez stated an interview with "KRONE":

The new Constitution: "A national consensus was adopted in January after long debates in parliament. Because of the state of emergency, basic rights have been temporarily suspended by the Constitution remains the guiding basis for the future of Nicaragua based on the three following principles: nonalignment, political pluralism, and a mixed economy. None of this will change and we do not consider any radicalization of the revolution. We could have chosen other systems; for example, 1-party system such as exists in Eastern Europe or in Africa. But this would not be good for Nicaragua because it would not solve the problems of our development. Pluralism and a mixed economy are very closely interconnected. We need parties that represent the various forces but we do not believe that democracy functions when many people are poor and a few are rich."

Elections: "We won 61 of the 94 seats in the 1984 parliamentary elections. The rest went to conservatives, liberals, Christian socialists, and communists (although 10 parties claimed there were obstructions to the election campaign and boycotted the elections). Naturally we would resign if we lose the next elections. But I think we will win them because what is at stake in Nicaragua today is national survival and the populace believes we alone can lead them out of this crisis."

U.S. policy: "It is always a misfortune when extremists are in power and the White House is full of extremists. They do not want to accept that a really independent country exists in Central America. The number of 'contras' has shrunk to 6,000 despite millions of dollars. In this sense the war has already been lost by the United States."

"Seven Hundred Military Advisers" [subhead]

Soviet presence: "There is no Soviet military presence here nor are there any particular sophisticated weapons. There are, however, 700 foreign military advisers here. This is not a great number. If an agreement is reached on the withdrawal of all foreign military advisers from Central America (hence also of the massive U.S. presence in neighboring Honduras) there will be no foreign advisers in Nicaragua either."

JAVIER CHAMORRO DISCUSSES NATIONAL POLICIES

AU181208 Vienna NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG in German 16 Feb 87 p 4

[Text] Javier Chamorro, member of the Chamorro clan, is Nicaragua's vice foreign minister responsible for Western Europe. He said in a ''KRONE'' interview the following about Nicaragua's foreign policy:

Nonalignment: We have repeatedly tried to make the U.S. Administration understand that we are not willing to permit Nicaragua to become a marshaling area of the Soviet Union or to tolerate foreign military bases in our country that could threaten other states in that region. We will never be a threat to the United States. At the same time, however, we take the view that all advisors, hence also those of the United States, should disappear from Central America. If Reagan, however, wishes us to bow down and surrender, this he will not achieve.

Export of the revolution: This charge of the U.S. Administration against us misses the point. Revolutions cannot be exported but develop on the basis of internal situations. Even if we were determined to export the revolution we would, first, be crazy to try such a thing because we would provide the United States with the motive for destroying us and second, we do not possess the capacity at all for an ''export of the revolution.'' This U.S. myth, that is the ''domino theory,'' has already proved incorrect in South-East Asia.

Support from the Soviet Union: We would be more than fortunate if our aid would not only flow from one side, that is the USSR. We never told the United States that we do not wish any friendly relations with it. But we only accept aid if there are no strings attached. If the USSR would attach any conditions, that is if we were compelled to make changes, we would also say ''no'' to the USSR.

KISAN SEEKS PARTICIPATION IN UNO DIRECTORATE

PA191444 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0240 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Teguciagalpa, 18 Feb (DPA) -- The Indian organization KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples] demanded today in Tegucigalpa that one of its members be included in the directorate of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) in the wake of the resignation of top FDN leader Adolfo Calero from the organization.

In a communique released in Teguciagalpa and signed by military commander Wycliffe Diego, KISAN is demanding compliance with an agreement between KISAN and UNO under which KISAN would be part of UNO's directorate if it joined that anti-Sandinist organization.

The communique says that a KISAN representative can be included as part of the reorganization taking place in UNO as a result of Calero's resignation, under pressure from the United States and his colleagues.

UNO's directorate has discussed the reorganization. It is expected that the next assembly will decide to expand the directorate to seven members, instead of the three who comprised it until Calero's resignation. Arturo Cruz and Alfonso Robelo are the other two.

KISAN, an anti-Sandinist armed organization that groups the Sumu, Rama, and Miskito Indians, is active on the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast and based in the same area on the Honduran side of the border. Its leaders claim that KISAN has 5,000 fighters, but little is known about their activities.

COMMANDER RUIZ OPENS CONFERENCE, PRAISES CONTADORA

PA182203 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2018 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text) Managua, 18 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- One of the nine commanders of the ruling FSLN today reaffirmed Nicaragua's support for the Contadora Group, because it is the "democratic expression of Latin America."

Commander Henry Ruiz, Nicaragua's foreign cooperation minister, pointed to the peace-seeking effort of Contadora as he inaugurated the fourth meeting of the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA).

"Contadora cannot be discouraged because it is the expression, conscience, and will for peace in Latin America," the Sandinist leader, who is in charge of economic planning in his country, pointed out.

Before the 21 Latin American representatives, who will analyze formulas to foster economic development in the region, Commander Henry Ruiz said that "despite obstacles placed by the United States, Contadora is the expression of the rebirth of nations on the isthmus."

The member of the Sandinist directorate said that the government supports the efforts of Contadora, which is being helped by the Support Group, and the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares.

Ruiz' speech, which was expected to address the domestic and international economic situation, was limited to extolling the peace-seeking group comprised of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama, as the only option for peace in the region.

After lashing out at the United States briefly, Henry Ruiz avoided commenting on a peace plan proposed by Costa Rica last Sunday calling for the implementation of free elections in the area, a general amnesty for rebels and political prisoners, and a cease-fire.

Ruiz added that the creation of CADESCA, which was established on 15 December 1985 in Panama, was sponsored by Contadora to promote economic development on the isthmus.

CONTRAS REPORTEDLY DESTROY POWER PYLON IN ESTELI

PA172317 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1735 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Managua, 17 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- La Voz de Nicaragua, the Managua government's official radio station, reported today that anti-Sandinist forces blew up a power pylon in northern Nicaragua.

The source said that the sabotage action left region one -- which includes the provinces of Nueva Segovia, Madriz, and Esteli without electricity or potable water.

The attack, carried out by the "contras," -- as the rebel forces fighting against the Managua government are known -- took place last night 4 km from La Trinidad, Esteli Province. The damaged infrastructure supported 138,000-watt cables. The official radio station did not report any casualties in the attack. Nicaraguan Institute of Energy (INE) authorities said the damage will be repaired in the next few hours.

MINISTER WHEELOCK PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO FINLAND

For reportage of the official visit to Finland by Jaime Wheelock, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, see the Nordic Affairs section of the 19 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

DOMINICAN LEGISLATORS MEET WITH RAMIREZ MERCADO

PA190452 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Nine Dominican legislators representing all of that country's political parties held a working meeting with Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado to discuss the creation of the Central American and Caribbean parliament. At the end of the meeting, which was held in the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center, Virgilio Alvarez, a member of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, PRD, said that the drafting of plans for the parliament has already begun. Alvarez said that the Caribbean Basin countries cannot disregard the problems faced by Central America. He also said that the parliament will benefit all of the countries in the area in the near future. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Alvarez] [Passage indistinct] All of the legislators that make up this delegation have come on a peace mission to discuss the creation of the Central American and Caribbean parliament. We understand that the Caribbean Basin countries cannot disregard the problems faced by Central America because they also adversely affect the region. The plan for the Central American and Caribbean parliament is already being drafted. We have received support for the creation of the parliament in Panama, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua. This afternoon we will depart for Guatemala with the hope of receiving support, and we hope this parliament will be beneficial for all of the area countries in the near future. We believe that the problems of the Central American countries pertain to the entire region as well as to the Latin American countries. These problems primarily affect the Central American and Caribbean countries.

[Reporter] What do you think about the U.S. military presence in Central America?

[Alvarez] The PRD and the Dominican Government have said on many occasions that the self-determination of peoples is very important. This means that all peoples have the right to make decisions for themselves without any kind of intervention.

[Reporter] What is your position on the Contadora process?

[Alvarez] I will answer the question just as the president of [word indistinct] answered the question. Contadora still counts. [Words indistinct] that is why the efforts for peace in the Central American countries should be made by Contadora. We support the peace efforts made by Contadora. [end recording]

USSR ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATION MEETING BEGINS

FL191832 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The will for unconditional bilateral cooperation has been reiterated during the first day of sessions of the Soviet-Cuban mixed working group on electric power. Among the subjects to be discussed during the meeting, which will continue in Havana until 23 February, will be the supply of equipment to complete the Jaragua power plant and the installation of a 500 kilovolts line.

VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ALARCON ARRIVES IN PERU

PA191910 Havana International Service in Quechua 0000 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon arrived in Peru on 15 February. According to reports, the vice minister will meet with officials of the Alan Garcia government. It has been learned that one of the points to be discussed will be the next ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement that will be held in Guyana in March. Alarcon told the press that relations between Cuba and Peru are very satisfactory and are a great example of cooperation between countries.

PERU'S GARCIA CITED ON CUBANS' ASYLUM REQUEST

PA140316 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Feb 87

[Text] Peruvian President Alan Garcia has stated that the Foreign Ministries of Peru and Cuba are seeking a solution of the case of three Cuban criminals who entered the Peruvian Embassy in Havana in 1980 to obtain a permit to leave for the United States. Garcia asserted that the Cuban Government had pointed out that its policy was not to give a permit so they could leave directly from the embassy to the airport, because this would simply justify entrance to the diplomatic mission. The Peruvian president added that Cuban authorities asked the three men to resume their normal activities in the country and then request their permit to leave Cuba.

A note from the Cuban Embassy in Lima recently said that the guarantee had been suspended given the blackmailing attitude adopted by the three men, who remain at the Peruvian diplomatic mission in Havana.

MEXICAN OFFICIALS ARRIVE FOR ECONOMIC MEETING

FL191920 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1701 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Havana, 18 Feb. (NOTIMEX) -- Hector Hernandez Cervantes, Mexican secretary of commerce and industrial development (SECOFI), arrived in Havana last night to attend the Mexican-Cuban mixed economic cooperation meeting.

Hernandez Cervantes, who is heading a delegation of industrialists and businessmen from his country, will discuss with Cuban authorities mechanisms aimed at increasing trade.

Meanwhile, a Mexican mission headed by Hector Mayagoitia Dominguez, director general of the National Council for Science and Technology (Conacyt), arrived in Havana last Monday [16 February] to participate in the ninth meeting of the mixed commission for scientific-technical cooperation.

The work of the mixed commission will end on 20 February with the signing of a protocol which will include the results of the talks.

Officials Sign Trade Protocol

FL200223 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] A trade protocol allowing Cuban exports increased access to the Mexican market was signed today by Hector Hernandez, Mexican commerce and industrial development secretary, and Ricardo Cabrisas, Cuban foreign trade minister.

Other documents signed during the ceremony demonstrate the willingness of the two governments to increase trade relations, especially that of Cuban exports.

NICARAGUAN FREIGHT ACCORD REVALIDATED

PA132101 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Feb 87

[Text] This afternoon, the Central American Freight Company, operating under the Nicaraguan Transportation Ministry, and the Cuban Freight Enterprise, CUFLET, revalidated an agreement signed by the two countries 3 years ago.

The agreement revalidated by Nicaragua and Cuba includes the transportation of exports between the two countries, the establishment of a shipping agency, and insuring port operations.

The agreement is being extended for 1 more year. The two parties praised the progress made with the maritime route.

[Begin unidentified Cuban official recording] Trade with Nicaragua has been an extraordinary experience for us because it forced us to improve our production mechanisms in the industry and the transportation apparatus at Cuban ports and at sea. [end recording]

Nicaragua promised to resolve certain problems including the congested traffic at Corinto Port.

[Begin unidentified Nicaraguan official recording] We are installing a new communications system, through telefacsimile, which will allow us to have immediate information prior to the arrival of a ship. There will also be a clearer document that will avoid problems that have been occurring in the distribution of merchandise at Corinto Port. [end recording]

Approximately 220,000 tons of products have been transported on the Cuba and Nicaragua maritime route, in both directions, in the past 5 years. This has forced Nicaraguan port officials to send ships to the San Juan del Sur port to reduce the traffic at Corinto.

NICARAGUAN DISCLOSES ALLEGED INVASION PLAN

PA140429 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 87

[Text] Holmes Elacio, former leader of the Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples (KISAN), today revealed that the CIA, together with Somozist groups, is planning to invade the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast in April or May to set up a provisional government on Corn Island.

U.S. 'CAMPAIGNS' ON PANAMA CANAL REPORTED

PA150314 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Feb 87

[Text] Romulo Escobar, the president of the Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party, has reported U.S. campaigns to prevent the fulfillment of the Panama Canal Treaties

Escobar said that as the year 2000 approaches, the United States is accelerating its destabilizing plans to prevent the delivery of the canal on 31 December 1999 as was established by the Carter-Torrijos agreements.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE BEGINS 19 FEB

FL191950 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] A 3-day international conference on housing and urbanism just began at the Palace of Conventions. Some 70 delegates from Europe, socialist Europe, and Latin America are participating in this important event.

The opening remarks were made by architect Pedro Galiano, president of Cuba's National Union of Construction Architects and Engineers [UNAIC]. He spoke about construction projects which have been completed in our country during the last few years and challenged workers to increase efficiency in construction.

Galiano said: We professionals have to perform with quality the technical tasks we're asked to undertake. He underscored that if we disregard the importance of the exchange of experiences among ourselves and with foreign countries, we will stall our development.

Finally, the UNAIC president made a call for all organizations that are linked to housing construction to work together.

YOUNG-WORKERS DRIVE TO BEGIN IN HAVANA

FL192012 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Rafael Hernandez, chief of the Young Workers Department of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], reported during a news conference that a new young-workers drive will begin in this capital. It will be kicked off with a ceremony at the Nico Lopez refinery in which Rosario Fernandez, member of the CTC National Secretariat, will speak.

[Begin Hernandez recording] The aim of this drive is to bring together even more the work the union and youth perform in all the work centers of the country so that our youth will be able to take over our working class. [end of recording]

UJC'S ROBAINA VIEWS UPCOMING CONGRESS TOPICS

FL181701 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] A deep critical analysis about the responsibilities of youths in the country's current situation, how it is dealing with it, and in what ways it is solving problems, will be the focus of debate during the Fifth Union of Young Communists [UJC] Congress, which will be held in this capital from 1 to 4 April. Roberto Robaina, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and first secretary of the UJC, asserted this during a meeting with the press. He also said they will assess the response given by the younger generation to the decisions taken at the Third PCC Congress. They will debate a main report including the organization's fundamental problems. The document will encourage a broad and open discussion that will help define more clearly the line of work of youth on the road to the year 2000.

AERONAUTICS INSTITUTE HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

FL171446 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] Quality was the most discussed topic at the annual assessment meeting of the Civil Aeronautics Institute [IACC] chaired by Luis Orlando Dominguez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the IACC. Meeting at IACC headquarters in Havana, the conferees analyzed the performance of civil aeronautics in 1986. Quality, economic efficiency, luggage losses, flight security, and economizing were the subject of broad debate by the members of the council [as heard].

Around 1.04 million passengers were transported in 1986, for an overfulfillment of 2.6 percent, while the cargo plan was not fulfilled because of the financial limitations of state organs. Both national and international itineraries were stable, although the levels of performance are not yet the desired ones. It was clear that passengers are still not getting adequate service because of a lack of administrative exigency in the implementation of established standards and a need to achieve greater labor discipline.

WAGE INCREASE APPROVED FOR HEALTH WORKERS

FL181308 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] Resolution No 13 was approved today by the State Committee for Labor and Social Security. It allows the laborers and workers of auxiliary units of the national health system to receive additional wages for years of service.

The payments will vary from 10 pesos monthly for 3 years of service to 40 pesos for 15 years of service.

In addition to elevating the salary of low-income workers, this measure encourages the stability of the work force in activities that are vital to the country.

PAPER DESCRIBES PROGRESS OF CUBAVISION

PA182100 Havana RESUMEN SEMANAL GRANMA in Spanish 11 Jan 87 p 11

[Article by Enrique Perez Diaz: "Cubavision: Cuba's Image Abroad"]

[Text] Last 26 July, the signals from Cuban television were beamed via satellite for the first time to the entire Atlantic coast of North America, Europe, and Asia.

The Intersputnik System Geostationary Satellite No 4, located 14 degrees west over the Atlantic Ocean, allowed Cuban internationalists and volunteers abroad, Cuban diplomatic missions, and all of Cuba's friends throughout the world to watch on that day the main event celebrating the 33d anniversary of the attack on the Moncada barracks. The event took place in Sancti Spiritus Province in the central part of the island.

Since then, not a single ceremony, event, or speech by President Fidel Castro has failed to be broadcast by Cubavision, the television channel beamed abroad.

When the Havana International Fair was held at the Palace of Conventions, Cubavision's news team asked for an interview with the Cuban leader.

When he was told that the program was to be broadcast primarily to Cuban internationalists in Africa, he asked if they would get to hear his words that same day. That is what actually happened. Thanks to the speed and efficiency of the equipment, most cooperation workers in Angola were able to hear Fidel speak at 1930 that night, even before the interview went on the air in Cuba.

Although a substantial number of internationalists receive a fraternal greeting from the homeland starting at 1930 every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, the signal from the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT] has not been able to reach some regions yet because of insufficient development in some technological aspects.

That organization, in coordination with the Communications Ministry and other institutions, is working to create a technological infrastructure that will increase the number of receivers of the Cubavision signal.

Programming is varied and recreational and depicts a current image of Cuba, including a 20-minute newscast and a 45-minute program on Cuba and its music. This program always features a guest artist and a discussion of the artist's work as well as current and old musical hits.

In addition to drawing from programs produced by the existing television channels in Cuba, Cubavision carries programs produced by the movie studios of ICRT, the National Institute of Tourism, and the Revolutionary Armed Forces' movie and television studios. Full-length color movies produced by the Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Arts and Industry are featured during the Sunday programs.

According to viewer correspondence, the Cubavision programming is watched not only by Cuban internationalists, for whom it was created, but by people on the east coast of North America, where many people have purchased parabolic antennas that allow them to watch Cuban television.

No more than 10 people are in charge of putting Cubavision on the air. These technicians spare no effort or time in broadcasting high-quality programs punctually an average of 5 hours four times a week. Through the multitask [multioficio] system, the technicians have done additional work, such as exchanging transmissions with socialist countries and relaying news to Europe through the IVN [Intervision] system.

Silvestre Perez Lagunas, vice president of Cuban television for international relations, highly values Cubavision's work.

He thinks the objectives for which the channel was created have been attained because Cuba's signal is being received by a large part of the world.

He finds very encouraging the fact that correspondence is being received from many friends and sympathizers of Cuba who want to know about the country's reality.

The use of the satellite also guarantees that transmissions by Cuban television will reach the entire nation when there are interruptions in the microwave network, which is subject to such risks as natural catastrophes, breakdowns in the linkup equipment, power outages, and other contingencies.

The vice president of the ICRT reasserted his conviction that during the next few years, following the establishment of an expanded technical base on which work is currently under way, the number of internationalists and cooperation workers who will feel closer to the homeland through Cubavision will increase more and more.

Thanks to this effort, when Cubavision's signal goes on the air people will be able to watch it just as well in the cold Norwegian capital as in Capetown in the south; in Tehran as in Ottawa; in La Paz as in Brazzaville; or in Managua as in Moscow.

ALLEGED PLOT AGAINST BALAGUER REPORTED

PA190042 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2319 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 Feb (DPA) -- The security surrounding President Joaquin Balaguer will be strengthened after an alleged plot against the president's life was publicly reported today, Antonio Imbert Barrera, secretary of state for the Armed Forces, announced today.

The charge about an alleged plot was made by Marino Vinicio Castillo, an attorney who is pressing charges for corruption against former President Salvador Jorge Blanco and other officials of his administration. He gave details of an alleged conspiracy to Prim Pujals, national district attorney (Santo Domingo), who is reportedly also included in the subversive plot.

The security around the district attorney, who ordered the imprisonment of Manuel Antonio Cuervo Gomez, former secretary of state for the Armed Forces under Jorge Blanco's administration, and three other former Army officers on charges of corruption, had already been previously strengthened.

The authorities did not give any details of the alleged conspiracy which also included a television producer by the name of Manuel Hernandez.

Those under arrest are pending indictment and are charged with embezzlement of funds, authorizing and carrying out illegal purchases and transactions in the Armed Forces, and favoring certain political partners in those transactions.

It was also reported today that Pujals, the district attorney, has summoned former President Jorge Blanco to his office for questioning on the charge of corruption filed against him. The official noted that if Jorge Blanco follows his lawyer's recommendation not to appear for the summons, he will be subject to the procedures set forth by the law in these cases.

Imbert on Alleged Plot

FL191610 Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Excerpts] The secretary of the Armed Forces has not ruled out the possibility of conspiracy outbreaks but said most of the Dominican people do not favor them. Lieutenant General Antonio Imbert Barrera asserted that most Dominicans want to maintain a calm and peaceful atmosphere. He added that the preservation of tranquillity and harmony and the search for the country's progress are on the minds of most Dominicans. [passage omitted]

Imbert Barrera said he is unaware if there is actually a plot to alter the institutional order as reported by the media. He explained that National District Attorney Dr Prim Pujals is the one who received reports from an attorney and a journalist regarding an alleged conspiration in the country.

BARBADOS

'MINOR' CABINET CHANGES EFFECTIVE 1 MARCH

FL192344 Bridgetown CANA in English 2220 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 19, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Errol Barrow today announced some minor changes in his 12-member cabinet, involving six ministers.

A government statement said the changes, effective March 1, will see Barrow assuming responsibility for information, currently held by Tourism and Industry Minister Branford Taitt, as well as the national insurance portfolio, held by Employment Minister Wes Hall.

Finance Minister Richie Haynes will relinquish responsibility for central purchasing, which will go to Minister of State Responsible for the Public Service Senator Harcourt Lewis.

Attorney-General Maurice King will add corporate affairs and intellectual property to his responsibilities.

GRENADA

NNP OFFICIALS REFUSE TO SIGN UNITY DOCUMENT

FL200059 Bridgetown CANA in English 2102 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Feb 19, CANA -- At least three top officials of Grenada's ruling New National Party (NNP) have refused to sign a document stating that the party is united, party sources said. The sources named the three as Attorney-General Dr Francis Alexis, Education Minister George Brizan, and Junior Minister for Legal Affairs Tillman Thomas.

Since taking office in the December 1984 general elections, the NNP has been plagued by deep internal division.

The sources said the document was circulated by Public Utilities Minister Dr Keith Mitchell on Tuesday [17 February] during a meeting of the Finance Committee of the House of Representatives. Mitchell, along with Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, External Affairs Minister Ben Jones, and other top party officials signed the document.

Alexis and Thomas refused to put their signatures to the statement which was to have been publicised to counter public knowledge here that all is not well within the NNP.

Brizan had earlier signed the document, but later asked for it to be brought back and promptly removed his name. Sources close to Brizan quoted him as saying that he had only signed the document to acknowledge that he had seen it.

Brizan and Alexis are regarded by some political analysts as the leaders of a faction known to be opposed to Blaize's autocratic leadership.

SECURITY INCREASED; NEW CABINET ANNOUNCED

PA200052 Paris AFP in Spanish 2053 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Paramaribo, 19 Feb (AFP) — Security measures were tightened here today after 3 days of demonstrations protesting the scarcity of certain foodstuffs, eyewitnesses have reported. Police and military patrolling of the city has increased, especially near government buildings, the same sources added.

Meanwhile, an official communique announced a cabinet reshuffle in the wake of the 10 February resignation of the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the ministers of finance, transport, trade and industry, and health.

Jules Wijdenbosch, who was appointed prime minister last Thursday to replace Pretaap Radhakishun, still holds his former posts of minister of internal administration, minister of justice, and also replaced Hendrik Herrenberg as foreign affairs minister.

Harry Kensmil, minister of energy and natural resources, will also hold the post of minister of finance and planning.

Allan Li Fo Sjoe, minister of education, science and culture, will also occupy the post of public health minister, and Cornelis Ardjosomito, minister of agriculture, will also hold the post of minister of transportation, trade, and industry.

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR 2 FORMER PRIME MINISTERS

FL192240 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] This week, the military police sent out wanted notices for the arrest of eight people of Surinamese origin. They are accused of being guilty of conspiring to overthrow the legal government in Suriname. They include three former officers of the National Army and three civilians, who play the role in the latest political history of the country.

Among the civilians are the former Prime Ministers Jules Sedney and Henk Chin A Sen. Also among the eight are former soldiers (Farandreg), (Farey), and Mahabir.

The offense for which they are accused carries a penalty from 20 years to life imprisonment.

STATE OIL COMPANY STOPS ALL PRODUCTION

FL192109 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The State Oil Company of Suriname has stopped all production this month and is now looking for foreign markets for its products. This year's production was estimated at 1 million barrels but the State Oil Company was forced to close since most of its products go to the bauxite industry.

The greater part of the crude oil which is produced is used in the aluminum plant of Suralco [Suriname Aluminum Company] and Billiton to generate steam and electricity. Since it could be months before the activities in the bauxite sector are resumed, the State Oil Company wants to export its products in order to keep in production.

The State Oil Company is currently discussing the selling of fuel oil with (?Gulf) oil trading company. Shell and ESSO departments in Suriname are also interested in this product.

Last week the State Oil Company started with the construction of larger storage facilities since they do not have enough capacity for export. The construction of the new tank is financed by the General Bank of Holland.

The State Oil Company has called on Suralco to lease part of its oil storage facility at Paranam so the State Oil Company can start producing again. Suralco's reaction to the request is not known.

State Oil director (Eddy Jharap) hopes that, with the foreign exchange from the exports, his company will be able to realize its plan for expansion. Besides an increase in production, he also thinks of building an oil refinery.

MEETING HELD TO DISCUSS RUMOR OF FUEL SHORTAGE

FL192222 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The Suriname service station owners organization yesterday met and discussed the many rumors regarding this sector. Among others, they discussed the possible hike in fuel prices, a rationing of fuel, and rumors of an impending shortage of fuel.

A spokesman for the union told our newsroom that fuel importers expect that both the price hike and rationing will be affected. According to the union, especially the rationing of the fuel supply will lead to panic and disturbances.

Yesterday, the board received a mandate to discuss these problems with the Ministry of Transport, Trade, and Industry. During the discussions with the ministry, the union will also try for an adjustment in the margin of profits. According to the union spokesman, the margin of profits has not changed for 15 years.

SOLDIERS KILL SUSPECTED REBEL COMMANDERS

FL182059 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] On Monday night last [16 February], the National Army clashed with about 50 rebels of the Brunswijk Gang. During the exchange, four rebels were killed and three were arrested while the rest fled. One member of the National Army was slightly wounded.

The clothing and other gear of the four dead rebels have led the authorities to believe that they were commanders of the gang.

Meanwhile, the National Army has resumed its offensive in the eastern south of the country.